RECOGNIZING THE BEST IN STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY

AASLH AWARDS BANQUET

St. Paul, Minnesota

III

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2014



AASLH AWARDS BANQUET

CROWNE PLAZA ST. PAUL - RIVERFRONT

6:30 PM

DINNER IS SERVED

7:00 PM

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Bob Beatty, Interim President and CEO, AASLH

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY PRESENTATION

Allie Tubbs, Summit Middle School, Johnston, IA

Junior Individual Performance

Lou Hoover's "Tempest In A Teapot": Changing African American's Rights and First Lady's Responsibilities

7:30 PM

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Trina Nelson Thomas, Chair, AASLH Awards Committee Director of Stark Art and History Venues, Stark Museum of Art, Orange, TX

AWARDS ADDRESS

Dr. Anton Treuer

Executive Director, American Indian Resource Center at Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN

8:15 PM

PRESENTATION OF AASLH AWARDS

Trina Nelson Thomas, Chair, AASLH Awards Committee and Regional Representatives Lynne Ireland, Deputy Director, Nebraska State Historical Society, Chair, AASLH Bob Beatty, Interim President and CEO, AASLH

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he Leadership in History awards program is truly one of my absolute favorite parts of working for AASLH. Why? Because there is SO MUCH GREAT WORK happening on behalf of history and we too often do not get a chance to celebrate it.

TONIGHT IS WHEN WE DO.

AASLH began its national awards program almost seventy years ago. It recognizes the best of the best in state and local history—YOUR WORK.

This Leadership in History Awards Banquet accurately represents the spirit of AASLH's awards program and it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 69th annual awards banquet co-sponsored by our friends at HISTORY.

This year, we will confer seventy-seven national awards honoring people, projects, exhibits, books, and organizations from thirty-two states. Award winners represent the best of our field and their projects provide a model for us in pursuit of excellence. Winners deserve our kudos and thanks for the important role they play in keeping history alive in our communities and nation.

The Leadership in History Awards represents a year-long, national effort that requires countless hours of volunteer service. Bethany Hawkins is the AASLH staff liason to the awards program. Trina Nelson Thomas, Director of Stark Art and History Venues, chairs the national committee of volunteer representatives from each region. These regional representatives work with a state leadership chair to bring to the national committee the best projects in their state. It is indeed a massive effort. Please offer BIG THANKS to Bethany, Trina, and the volunteer regional and state representatives for their hard work and dedication (names on pages 16–17 in this program).

The Leadership in History Awards has benefited from the long-time support of our partner HISTORY. HISTORY understands the importance of state and local history and the need to recognize exemplary efforts in the field. We are proud to count them among our many friends.

Thank you for joining us for this special evening.

Sincerely.

Bob Beatty Interim President and CEO, AASLH

elcome to the 2014 Leadership in History Awards Banquet and congratulations to this year's award winners. In its 69th year, the American Association for State and Local History awards program continues "to establish and encourage standards of excellence in the collection, preservation, and interpretation of state and local history." As history practitioners you know the long hours, devotion to scholarship, and passion required to meet the missions of history organizations, small or large, throughout the country. Tonight we recognize seventy-seven award winners publicly for their projects that highlight innovative and compelling ways to connect history with their communities and serve as exciting models for the field.

As a Leadership in History Award nominee, the work continues long after the publication is released, the exhibition has closed, and the program evaluations are reviewed. The AASLH Council, Staff, and National Awards Committee are grateful for volunteers and staff who take the time to nominate projects. To do so, you essentially relive the experience while you document what you did, why you did it, and who you did it for; you invite history and museum professionals to critically review your work and comment on the quality of the scholarship of each endeavor and whether or not it made a significant impact on the target audience; you assess each page of information to make sure it captures the spirit of the project and encourages the reviewer to want to learn more...and you do all of this in a binder that is no more than two inches wide.

Each nomination takes a journey from their home organization and town to be reviewed at the state, regional and, finally, national level. Throughout their trip, the nominations are reviewed, tweaked, massaged, and fine-tuned with the guidance of the state chairs and regional representatives. If sent on for the national review, the nomination will be one of more than one hundred that are debated and voted upon in Nashville each May.

You, the members of AASLH, are an equally important part of the awards program. The committee relies on you to continue developing projects that connect people to their state and local history in meaningful and engaging ways and to invest the time in nominating these projects and people for the Leadership in History Awards program.

Tonight, we present awards in three categories. **The Award of Merit** recognizes excellence for projects, including special projects, educational programs, exhibits, publications, restoration projects, and individual achievement. **The History in Progress Award** (HIP) is given at the discretion of the awards committee for a project that is highly inspirational, exhibits exceptional scholarship, and/or is exceedingly entrepreneurial. **The Albert B. Corey Award**, named for a former president of AASLH, recognizes primarily volunteer-operated historical organizations that display exceptional qualities of vigor, scholarship, and imagination. Additionally, this evening we acknowledge the work of organizations that have completed the requirements for all six categories of the StEPs program.

As you review the list of award winners in this program, I hope you will take pride in, and be energized by, the many ways the history field helps our communities reflect on, learn from, engage with, and thoughtfully consider the past. To close, it is my distinct pleasure to thank everyone who makes the Leadership in History Awards program possible—the nominees and award winners, the state chairs and regional representatives, the AASLH staff, particularly Bethany Hawkins, and HISTORY, who continues to be a generous sponsor of this evening's event.

Onward!

Truna Nelson Thomas

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

Jeadership in History

The American Association for State and Local History conducts its Leadership in History Awards to establish and encourage standards of excellence in the collections, 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.

AASLH CONFERS FOUR DIFFERENT TYPES OF AWARDS:

THE AWARD OF DISTINCTION

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 ALBERT B. COREY AWARD

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

THE HIP AWARD

The History in Progress (HIP) award is given to a project that is highly inspirational; exhibits exceptional scholarship; and/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 AWARD OF MERIT

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



2014 The Albert B. Corey Award



The Fort Daniel Foundation

Lawrenceville, Georgia

ort Daniel was constructed to protect the Georgia frontier during the War of 1812, but was abandoned and lost afterwards. In 2007, the Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society and Dr. James D'Angelo rediscovered the site and instituted measures to ensure its preservation and future educational use. The property was obtained by Gwinnett County in 2012 and then leased by the all-volunteer foundation to develop it as a county historical and archaeological park. Quarterly educational programs, the annual Frontier Faire, and partnerships with local schools and Scout programs contribute to the development of the Fort Daniel Historic and Archaeological Research Site and its hands-on philosophy of learning.



HIP History in Progress



Delaware Historical Society and State of Delaware, Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, Wilmington, DE



FOR THE EXHIBIT Forging Faith, Building Freedom: African American Faith Experiences in Delaware, 1800-1980

2014 Award of Merit Winners

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS!

CALIFORNIA

Ernest Marquez, Santa Monica, for outstanding scholarship and leadership in preserving and interpreting Southern California history. For over six decades, Marquez has been dedicated to local history in the Los Angeles area, founding preservation societies, curating exhibits, and authoring books. His work has made a rich civic contribution by uniting indigenous peoples, descendants of cattlemen, ranchers, politicians, and others in the quest to preserve their history.

San Marino Historical Society and **Elizabeth Pomeroy**, San Marino, for the publication *San Marino: A Centennial History.* This book tells the story of a unique Southern California city through oral histories, photographs, maps, drawings, and new scholarship. Pomeroy has written a compelling local history that details the contributions of San Marino's most famous residents and the diverse groups that built the city into what it is today.

Fullerton College, Brea, for the exhibit *Legends and Legacies: The First 100 Years of Fullerton College*. This exhibit launched the centennial celebrations of the oldest continuously operating community college in California. *Legends and Legacies* explores the development of Fullerton College from its rural and agricultural roots to its present-day status as an urban/ suburban community center. Using documents, artifacts, media, and video biographies, this exhibit invites visitors to view American and Orange County history through the eyes of Fullerton students, alumni, faculty, and staff.

The Gatekeeper's Museum and North Lake Tahoe Historical Society, Tahoe City, for the exhibit *Ursus Among Us: The American Black Bear in the Tahoe Basin.* This exhibit presents information about native black bears in the region and aims to replace fear with understanding of these noble creatures. The main themes address the history of bears in the basin and the history of human-bear interaction from ancient times through the present. *Ursus Among Us* doubled summertime attendance at the museum and successfully educated local residents and visitors about peacefully coexisting with their animal neighbors.

Oakland Museum of California and **San Francisco Estuary Institute**, Oakland, for the exhibit *Above and Below: Stories From Our Changing Bay.* This large multidisciplinary exhibit discusses the environmental history of the San Francisco Bay and how humans have altered and shaped this natural resource. It highlights new perspectives and unheard voices such as those of Chinese immigrants, bridge maintenance crews, and Ohone Indians.

COLORADO

Special Collections, Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs, for the *Pikes Peak Regional History Symposium Project.* For the past ten years, the Pikes Peak Library District has held a day-long regional history symposium that combines scholarly presentations with music and films to engage the general public with local history and culture. Covering diverse topics from the 1859 Gold Rush to notable Western women and beyond, these symposia draw a wide live audience and are also broadcast on the library's cable and online channels. The library district has energized a strong community interest in local history through these events, their programs, and publications.

History Colorado, Denver, for the exhibit *Living West*. Exploring the changing relationships between Coloradans and the environment, *Living West* presents a three-part environmental history of the state. Focusing on ancient Mesa Verde, the Dust Bowl, and the modern-day Rocky Mountains, this exhibit explains how the landscape shapes and influences human activity and vice versa.

CONNECTICUT

Gunn Memorial Museum, Washington, for the exhibit *Coming* to America: Washington's Swedish Immigrants. This exhibit, which commemorates the 125th anniversary of the Swedish Salem Covenant Church in Washington Depot, shares the little-known story of Swedish immigration to the town. By collecting oral histories, doing archival research, and lending historic artifacts, a team of over eighty-five volunteers and contributors, many Swedish descendants, made this exhibit a true community effort.

Peter and Jane Montague Benes, Enfield, for a lifetime of promoting and preserving the history of New England through the Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife. For nearly forty years, the Beneses have sustained and guided this annual conference on diverse New England themes. Examining everything from material culture and structures to music and food, these seminars have been bringing together scholars of Northeastern social history and folklife and inspiring students since 1976. With over 750 presentations and 400 articles published, the conference is a prolific and valuable contributor of local history scholarship to a wide audience. It fosters engagement and collaboration in place-based and social history throughout the region and beyond. 2014 Award of Merit Winners

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington, D.C., for the exhibit *Voices of the Vigil*. This exhibition enabled the Society to engage new audiences with the history of the grassroots communal movement that maintained a daily protest vigil for the plight of Soviet Jews outside the Soviet Embassy for more than twenty years. The activities of the Washington community in supporting Jewish people in the U.S.S.R. were largely undocumented before this exhibit, despite their significance. Through the exhibit, associated curriculum, website, and educational programs, the JHSGW presents a local story with international impact.

DELAWARE

The Delaware Division of Historical Cultural Affairs, Dover, for the project *The DeBraak and its Atlantic World*. This project combined exploration of an eighteenth-century sunken ship with modern technology and conservation methods to engage and educate visitors at the Zwaanendael Museum in Lewes. The story of the ship, its rediscovery, and its ongoing conservation is told through the *His Majesty's Sloop of War, DeBraak* exhibit at the museum and a visit to see the ship's hull stored nearby. The *DeBraak* project uses interactive lectures, handson activities, and unprecedented public access to bring this major maritime story to life.

Delaware Historical Society and **The Delaware Division of Historical Cultural Affairs**, Wilmington, for the exhibit *Forging Faith, Building Freedom: African American Faith Experiences in Delaware, 1800–1980.* This exhibit focuses on presenting the voices, artifacts, and images of African American religion in Delaware for the first time to a wide audience. Delaware played a key role in the development of independent black churches *in America,* and the history of the state's African American faith communities spans centuries. This project promotes the future Center for African American Heritage and commemorates the bicentennial of the founding of the African Union Methodist Church and the Big August Quarterly festival in Wilmington.

FLORIDA

Jan H. Johannes Sr., Orange Park, for his dedication to preserving and sharing the history of Nassau County. Johannes has been a champion of local history for nearly forty years and compiled the first comprehensive history of the county in *Yesterday's Reflections*. His work as a founder of the West Nassau Historical Society was instrumental in the preservation of the 1881 Callahan Train Depot. Johannes has also worked to establish and improve several local history museums, and remains dedicated to sharing Nassau County's history with the public.

GEORGIA

Atlanta History Center, Atlanta, for the *Party with the Past* program. This outreach program for young professionals presents the city's history in a fresh and relevant way to a new generation. By hosting monthly parties at different historic locales around the city, *Party with the Past* connects local historians with an interested and dynamic young audience. This nontraditional program has brought approachable and engaging history to nearly 3,000 people over the past two years.

Telfair Museums, Savannah, for the *Slavery and Freedom in Savannah* project. This project explored the underrepresented world of urban slavery in America and utilized a publication, museum exhibition, and three-day symposium to educate public and scholarly audiences. The *Savannah* project provides a perspective for understanding slavery outside of a plantation context and shows the complex relations of urban slaves and owners.

IDAHO

Terri Schorzman, Boise, for her dedication to preserving the history of the City of Boise and inspiring appreciation for the past in her community. As founder and director of the Boise City Department of Arts and History, Schorzman has led this nationally-unique department in preserving Boise's sense of place and sharing it with thousands of visitors, students, and Boise natives.

Boise City Department of Arts and History, Boise City Department of Parks and Recreation, Southeast Boise Neighborhood Association, Studio Maelstrom, TAG Historical Consultants, Landmark Impressions, and Stephanie Inman Designs, Boise, for the *Historic South Boise Trolley Station Plaza*. This project was a collaboration among the Southeast Boise Neighborhood Association, the City Department of Arts and History, and the Boise Department of Parks and Recreation to commemorate the historic streetcar system that once existed in the city. This trolley shelter was the only remaining one in Boise, and these groups saved it from demolition, stabilized it, and restored it as an interpretive center and public art piece in its original neighborhood location.

IOWA

Jerome L. Thompson, Des Moines, for over three decades of exceptional service to the history community of Iowa. Thompson has served the State Historical Society of Iowa for thirty-two years, including four years as the Interim State Historical Society Administrator, Preservation Officer, and State Archivist. His stewardship of historic resources and willingness to take on a challenge reflect his dedication and love of Iowa history. **Brucemore, Inc.**, Cedar Rapids, for the stabilization and conservation of the Grant Wood Sleeping Porch. This plaster relief mural was commissioned for the Brucemore mansion's porch in 1925 and is valued at over \$3.5 million today. This project involved architectural and artistic assessment, cleaning and conservation, public education, and the development of a maintenance plan for the future. Brucemore's conservation and management of this unique piece will ensure its survival for generations and maintain the legacy of this iconic lowa artist.

ILLINOIS

The Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, Evanston, for the exhibit *The Left Front: Radical Art in the "Red Decade,"* 1929–1940. This exhibit focuses on the relationship between art and leftist politics in the 1930s, a time when visual artists joined with authors, poets, journalists, and activists to form a "left front" against the threats of world war and fascism. It is the first exhibit to focus specifically on the visual arts legacy of the John Reed Club and the American Artists' Congress. Over one hundred prints, paintings, posters, books, and artifacts tell the story of the artists in these groups who sought to promote workers' rights, equality, and peace through their work.

Elmhurst Historical Museum, Elmhurst, for the exhibit *Carl Sandburg in Elmhurst*. This exhibit focuses on the years 1919 through 1928 when Sandburg and his family lived in this town in the Chicago suburbs. The Elmhurst years were transitional for Sandburg personally, professionally, and politically, and the Elmhurst Historical Museum proudly presents the story of the beloved poet in their community. The exhibit also engages with the broader Chicago area and discusses Sandburg's life and interests beyond literature.

KANSAS

Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area, Lawrence Convention and Visitors Bureau, Watkins Museum of History, and Lawrence Public Library, Lawrence, for #QR1863: A Twitter Reenactment of Quantrill's Raid. This innovative program brought together community volunteers to live-tweet a virtual reenactment of Quantrill's Raid on Lawrence in commemoration of the event's sesquicentennial anniversary. Fifty-one historical characters representing raiders, survivors, and victims tweeted their experiences throughout the day in "real time" to give a realistic, minute-by-minute depiction of the events of 1863. #QR1863 trended across the globe on August 21, 2013, reaching 1.3 million people and engaging millions beyond the traditional history audience.

KENTUCKY

Sisters of Loretto, Nerinx, for the Sisters of Loretto Heritage Center. The Sisters of Loretto was founded in 1812 by three Catholic Kentucky pioneer women "to work for justice and act for peace." Today the Loretto Motherhouse is the site of the heritage center, which includes an archive and museum to interpret the community's story and those of the Sisters around the world. In commemoration of the organization's 200th anniversary in 2012, the Heritage Center received a complete redesign of facilities and programming. Today, the Center is focused on engaging the public through exhibits, oral histories, genealogical projects, and community events.

Tracy E. K'Meyer, Louisville, for the publication *From Brown* to *Meredith: The Long Struggle for School Desegregation in Louisville, Kentucky, 1954–2007.* Combining oral histories with original scholarly research, K'Meyer's book presents the story of school desegregation in a local context. Examining the conflicts and controversies over desegregation and busing in Louisville and Jefferson County Public Schools, this book challenges traditional assumptions about these processes and presents the Louisville experience in the words of those who lived it. *From Brown to Meredith* connects historic issues to modern day concerns about the present and future of educational policy, and presents a relevant and insightful look into the ongoing struggle for equality of opportunity in education.

Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort, for the HistoryMobile exhibit *Torn Within and Threatened Without: Kentuckians in the Civil War Era.* This mobile exhibition presents the story of the Civil War in an engaging graphic novel format to fourth, fifth, and eighth grade students around the state. By inviting students to put themselves in the place of historic Kentuckians faced with difficult choices, *Torn Within and Threatened Without* shows students the importance of individual actions and the complexity of decisions made during this tumultuous period. This creative mobile exhibit is complemented with videos, lesson plans, and a comic book.

MAINE

Leslie Rounds and the Saco Museum, Saco, for the exhibit "I My Needle Ply with Skill"—Maine Schoolgirl Needlework of the Federal Era. Examining over two hundred historic samplers, this exhibit presents the story of female academies, instructors, and pupils in the Federal Era. Female voices are often missing or silenced in the historical record, but projects such as this one are able to let women speak through their work and material culture. Samplers tell unique local stories about the history of visual culture, domestic and educational life, literature and religion, and shipping and trade, and give artistic glimpses into the lives and times of accomplished girls and women.

MASSACHUSETTS

Ghlee E. Woodworth, Newburyport, for the *Newburyport Clipper Heritage Trail*. The *Heritage Trail* is a series of self-guided history tours accessed via website or mobile device that highlights the historical, cultural, and natural resources of this small seaport town. The trail provides a variety of resources for visitors, as well as Newburyport classrooms. The tours, images, maps, brochures, timelines, and other online content help bring more than three hundred years of history to life. **Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library**, Lexington, for the publication *Curiosities of the Craft: Treasures from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts Collection.* This catalog of more than 150 fascinating objects from the Grand Lodge collections sheds light on more than three hundred years of Masonic history in Massachusetts. Items made or used by Masons or associated with notable Freemasons are analyzed not only for their own preservation, but also for the stories they can tell about Masonic history and its intersections with American society and culture.

MICHIGAN

Detroit Historical Society, Denver Brunsman, Joel Stone, and **Douglas D. Fisher**, Detroit, for the publication *Border Crossings: The Detroit River Region in the War of 1812.* This edited volume commemorates the conflict's bicentennial and traces border relations from peace to conflict to reconciliation. By focusing on real people in Michigan and Ontario whose lives were changed by the realities of war, it presents a personal history of individual lives beyond the battles and fills a crucial gap in military and wartime literature.

Dr. Keith R. Widder, East Lansing, for the publication *Beyond Pontiac's Shadow: Michilimackinac and the Anglo-Indian War of 1763.* As a twenty-eight-year veteran of Mackinac State Historic Parks, Dr. Widder brings his expertise and material from the park's library and archives to the telling of this complex story. The book focuses on the British occupation of Fort Michilimackinac and its disruption of the French and Native fur trade society that existed. By revealing the dramatic interplay of the diverse populations that inhabited the community (including soldiers, fur traders, French-Canadians, Métis, and Odawa and Ojibwe Indians), this work sheds new light on the causes and participants of "Pontiac's War."

Detroit Historical Society, Detroit, for the *Past>Forward* exhibitions. These five new permanent exhibits brought the Detroit Historical Museum into the twenty-first century by replacing outdated installations and focusing attention on the city's more recent history. Galleries such as *America's Motor City* and *Detroit: "The Arsenal of Democracy,"* as well as other museum renovations, have spurred increased visitation and relevancy of this museum to a wide range of ages and audiences.

MINNESOTA

Labor Education Service, University of Minnesota, Randy Croce, Dan Ganley, David Riehle, John Sielaff, and Victoria Woodcock, Minneapolis, for the documentary and website *Who Built Our Capitol? The Lives and Work of the Men and Women Who Built the Minnesota State Capitol Building.* This multimedia project uncovered the hidden history of the Capitol's builders in turnof-the-century Minneapolis through archival research, oral history, and artifact collection. The documentary and website were joined with school curriculum, tours, lectures, a radio show, and articles to bring to light the forgotten community of workers behind this iconic structure.

Mark F. Peterson, Winona, for his exceptional leadership of the Winona County Historical Society and his dedication to preserving the history of the county. As a thirty-one-year veteran of the WCHS, Peterson has brought countless improvements in museum facilities, access, and programming, including the award-winning \$4.5 million Laird Norton Addition to the Armory.

John W. Decker, St. Cloud, for his years of exceptional service and dedication to the Stearns History Museum. As Director of Archives at the Museum for the past thirty-seven years, Decker has shared his expertise in Stearns County history with researchers, students, and the public. He was instrumental in achieving AAM accreditation and serves as Associate Editor of the Museum's bi-monthly publication. Decker also founded the Museum's Century Farm program and travels across the state each year to install plaques and network with farm families.

Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, for the program *The Dred Scott Family and the National Debate Over Slavery.* As part of the History Live program, this interactive videoconferencing experience connects instructors and resources with remote classrooms by providing a personalized and technology-driven exploration of the Dred Scott story. Digitized images and documents are brought into the twenty-first century through Web 2.0 tools that encourage student interaction and dialogue while utilizing their tech skills. By understanding how students explore their own world, this unique program brings history to life by giving students a way to engage with the past using today's research and collaboration techniques.

Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, for *Play the Past*. This special project integrates mobile and Web technologies to create a learner-centered paradigm for teaching history to the next tech-savvy generation of students. Combining in-gallery mobile applications, Web 2.0 tools, handheld devices, and interactive websites, this program enables students to actively engage with the material on platforms they use every day. *Play the Past* is currently being used in the Minnesota History Center's *Then Now Wow* exhibit for fourth through sixth-grade classrooms. This personalized learning experience presents an innovative model of education to inspire diverse audiences of learners to engage with history.

Dave Kenney and **Thomas Saylor**, St. Paul, for the publication *Minnesota in the '70s.* This multi-staged project explores this complex and stereotyped decade through the book, an enhanced e-book, the MN70s blog, and a documentary. Kenney and Saylor explain how the 1970s shaped the state's identity as it stands today through urban planning, business practices, and other realms. This work highlights the development of Minnesota as a progressive and civically engaged state during this often dismissed decade.

Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, for the publication *Northern Lights: The Stories of Minnesota's Past.* This updated and expanded curriculum for sixth graders uses principles from economics, geography, and civics to engage students with the history of their state. Combining primary sources and hands-on activities with content reviewed by a team of experts, the new *Northern Lights* helps Minnesota students become historians in their own right to appreciate their state's past.

Clifford Canku and **Michael Simon**, St. Paul, for the publication *The Dakota Prisoner of War Letters: Dakota Kaŝkapi Okicize Wowapi*. This groundbreaking work presents the story of the 1862 U.S.-Dakota War and its aftermath from the long-silenced Native American perspective. Canku and Simon translated fifty letters from imprisoned Dakota men describing their lives in exile to family and friends, and present them here in several versions that shed important light onto these lost voices and the development of Dakota language and orthography.

Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County, Moorhead, for the exhibit *Prairie Daughters: The Art and Lives of Annie Stein and Orabel Thortvedt.* This exhibit focuses on the work of two virtually unknown women artists who made unique contributions to preserving the history of Clay County. Using primary sources and artwork from the Society and private collections, *Prairie Daughters* presents the county's past as recorded in the sketches, drawings, paintings, and journals of these remarkable women.

MISSOURI

Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, for the website *Civil War on the Western Border: The Missouri-Kansas Conflict, 1854-1865.* This collaborative project combines thousands of primary sources drawn from twenty-five archives with innovative interpretive features and scholarship from top historians to examine the war on a regional level. The website increases access to these materials and facilitates analysis and discussion among historians, students, Civil War historians, and community residents.

MISSISSIPPI

Museum of the Mississippi Delta, Greenwood, for the exhibit *War Comes to the Mississippi Delta*. This exhibit and associated programming focused on the Civil War in the Delta beyond just battles. The project also included a scholarly symposium, curriculum-based student tours, and a two-day encampment at Fort Pemberton. The exhibit explores the everyday lives of soldiers, the role of women in preserving the family and farms, the effect of the Emancipation Proclamation on slaves, the economic impact of the war, and the lasting effects of the war with regards to flood control and transportation.

NEBRASKA

Thomas R. Buecker, Lincoln, for the publication *A Brave Soldier and Honest Gentleman: Lt. James E. H. Foster in the West, 1873–1881.* Interweaving Lt. Foster's original military journals with extensive archival research and scholarship, Nebraska State Historical Society curator Buecker has produced an exceptional study of life in the frontier West and conflicts between the U.S. government and the Lakotas on the Northern Plains. Readers experience the events of the Great Sioux War through the eyes of a junior U.S. officer while benefiting from Buecker's historical perspective and analysis.

NEW YORK

Laurence M. Hauptman, New Paltz, for the publication *In the Shadow of Kinzua: The Seneca Nation of Indians since World War II.* The construction of the Kinzua Dam in Pennsylvania in the 1960s protected the area from flood damage and provided hydroelectric power, but it also claimed 10,000 acres of the Allegheny Reservation granted to the Seneca Nation in 1794. This project displaced hundreds of people and had a devastating impact on the Seneca Nation. Hauptman's book explores the political background of the dam while also providing personal accounts of suffering, perseverance, and triumph in the Seneca Nation.

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico History Museum and Palace of the Governors and **New Mexico Humanities Council**, Santa Fe, for the exhibit *Cowboys, Real and Imagined.* This project combines engaging public programming with an innovative exhibit to present a chronological history of Southwestern cowboys along with the rise of their manufactured pop culture counterparts. The exhibit utilizes technology and interactive experiences to create an immersive atmosphere that fascinates visitors of all ages. The associated musical performances, films, and programs, like Wild West Weekend, take the exhibit beyond the museum walls to provide a comprehensive look into the past, present, and future of these mythic American figures.

NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh, for the exhibit Watergate: Political Scandal and the Presidency. This project, completed for the 40th anniversary of Watergate, presents the story of the scandal and North Carolina's connections to the Senate Select Committee through documents, objects, and media. Highlighting the large role that North Carolinians like Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr. played in the Watergate investigation, this exhibit brings recent history to life in the museum to interest and engage a wide range of visitors.

2014 Award of Merit Winners

0 H I O

Sandusky Library, Sandusky, for the documentary *Under the Baton: Music at Old Cedar Point.* This documentary explores the history of the middle class and leisure in American life through the lens of band performances at Ohio's iconic amusement park. The twenty-six minute film premiered on WGTE's *Toledo Stories* and was distributed with lesson plans to schools in Northeast Ohio. Thousands have enjoyed this program and the story it tells about the nineteenth-century rise of amusement parks and the role of music in expressing middle-class and patriotic values to park patrons. Using diverse sources from archival material and newspapers to sheet music and postcards, the documentary presents an accessible local story within the larger national context.

Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, for the *Ohio Village Time Share Program.* This innovative approach to interpretation and public participation revived the recreated 1860s town that had closed due to funding cuts. The Ohio Village was transformed into a living community of invested volunteers who care for their buildings, develop historical personas, and share the experience of 1860s Ohio with the public audience. This program enabled the reopening of the Ohio Village and increased awareness and activity within the community.

Kent State University, Kent, for the *Kent State University May 4 Visitor Center* exhibit. This project explores the shooting of thirteen Kent State students by members of the Ohio National Guard on May 4, 1970, against the backdrop of the sixties era. Three galleries guide visitors through the changes of the 1960s, the day of the shootings, and the impact both locally and nationally. The Center invites public participation and the sharing of memories about this event and promotes a message of communication and nonviolence through its exhibit.

Lynley Dunham-Cole and the Warren County Historical

Society, Lebanon, for the exhibit *Following the Tracks of the Underground Railroad in Warren County.* This exhibit focuses on presenting the diverse population of the county that was divided by the issue of slavery and dispelling some of the myths about the Underground Railroad. Warren County was a hotbed of political, religious, and social strife, and this examination of the complexity of residents' choices is essential for educating visitors about both the pro-slavery and abolitionist movements within the area.

Ann Schierhorn, David LaBelle, Althemese Barnes, Kent, OH, and the John G. Riley Museum, Tallahassee, FL, for the exhibit "They Led the Way." This exhibit commemorates the integration of Leon County, Florida, public schools in 1963 and recognizes the perseverance and courage of the African-American students who braved persecution to pursue education and equality. "They Led the Way" presents the story of integration in Tallahassee on a personal and relatable level, and is especially geared to helping schoolchildren understand this tumultuous period in American history.

PENNSYLVANIA

Charles B. Oellig, Annville, for his dedication to preserving and interpreting the history of the Pennsylvania National Guard. A former National Guardsman, military reenactor, and Pennsylvania State Museum employee, Oellig has been involved with interpreting military history for decades. For the past twenty-eight years, he has served as volunteer director and curator of the Pennsylvania National Guard Military Museum, donating his time and expertise for the preservation of the history of soldiers and veterans.

Ebenezer Maxwell Mansion, Philadelphia, for the *Upstairs Downstairs* tour. This tour immerses visitors in the world of Victorian class and gender roles through its detailed interpretation of the lives of women of diverse socioeconomic levels. The innovative tour and programming focus attention on historic women's issues such as personal freedom, property rights, and employment.

Pennsylvania College of Technology, Williamsport, for the *Penn College History Trail.* This walking path around the main campus commemorates the college's centennial and illustrates the evolution of the institution and its community. Seventeen informational kiosks educate visitors about the college's rich history and its connections to the surrounding region. Documenting everything from construction of campus buildings to the historic local lumber industry, the *Penn College History Trail* and its online component continue to foster interest and engagement in thousands of students, alumni, visitors, and Williamsport natives.

Cliveden, Philadelphia, for the project *Emancipating Cliveden*. The initiatives of this project broadened the interpretation of the eighteenth-century Cliveden mansion beyond that of its original owners and brief involvement in the 1777 Battle of Germantown. Recognizing that there is more to Cliveden's long history, the *Emancipating Cliveden* project incorporated new historic voices, produced an orientation film and website, and crafted a dialogue-based visitor experience to better contextualize the home within the history of freedom and human rights in America. Cliveden's increased relevance and integration into community life are major results of these efforts.

Gettysburg Seminary Ridge Museum, Gettysburg, for the development of the museum. Opened in 2013, the renovated historic Seminary building houses the three-floor permanent exhibit *Voices of Duty and Devotion*. This exhibit discusses the events of the Battle of Gettysburg, the Seminary's role as a field hospital, and the larger civil and ethical context of the war. By focusing on the first day of the battle and the larger issues of faith and freedom, this museum contextualizes Gettysburg and the Civil War within a broader narrative.

Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum, Lancaster, for *The* Lancaster Long Rifle exhibit. This project interpreted the contributions of Pennsylvania German gunsmiths working in Lancaster County and highlighted extraordinary examples of long rifles from the collection, many of which had never before been exhibited to the public. A variety of themes, including ignition systems, period advertisements, and Indian trade guns, contributed to this comprehensive look at local material culture and its history.

Thomas B. Hagen and **Erie Insurance Company**, Erie, for the publication *The Historic Tibbals House* — *1842.* This book combines the history of the Tibbals family in Erie with the story of how their Greek Revival home was rescued and restored by Erie Insurance Group. Hagen's book contextualizes the family's contributions as manufacturing entrepreneurs to the larger story of Erie in the nineteenth century and provides archival and original photographs of their preserved home. The Tibbals House has contributed to the revitalization of Erie's downtown core and stands as a testament to the possibility of preservation and restoration for the city's historic resources.

Thomas White, Pittsburgh, for the publication *Witches of Pennsylvania: Occult History and Lore.* White's book presents the first complete historical overview of beliefs about witchcraft in the state, and traces the history of the occult from William Penn's 1684 witch trial to the "Satanic Panic" of the 1980s. Combining history, religion, and folklore, this book examines early American witchcraft beyond Salem. White describes the unique conditions and history of Pennsylvania that guided attitudes towards witchcraft, as well as the Progressive Era changes that intensified suspicion and persecution of folk magic and its practitioners.

Senator John Heinz History Center and Samuel W. Black,

Pittsburgh, for the publication *The Civil War in Pennsylvania: The African American Experience.* This collection of essays, edited by Samuel W. Black, brings together a multitude of scholarly voices to explore how African Americans in Pennsylvania actively pursued freedom and self-determination during this tumultuous era. From the Haitian Revolution to Reconstruction, the story is contextualized within the transatlantic world and presented to general and academic readers in a way that is engaging and thought-provoking.

U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center, Carlisle, for the exhibit *A Great Civil War: Battles that Defined a Nation, 1863.* This is the final installment of the Center's exhibit commemorating the war's sesquicentennial, and documents the personal experiences of forty-four soldiers, military personnel, and civilians during this critical year. Through original artifacts, documents, images, and interactive elements, visitors view the war through the eyes of individuals who experienced it.

RHODE ISLAND

Newport Restoration Foundation, Newport, for the *Rough Point Valance VIP Project.* The Rough Point mansion took the opportunity of replacing a pair of damaged seventeenth-century appliqué valances to institute the Volunteers in Partnership (VIP) program, which connected volunteer needle workers with trained conservators to reproduce these pieces. Volunteers crafted the 1,000-piece velvet appliqués using traditional methods and helped the museum engage visitors through a "live" reproduction studio that documented the process.

TENNESSEE

Tennessee State Museum, Nashville, for the *Freedom's Call* essay contest. This competition utilized the Emancipation Proclamation's visit to Nashville to introduce students to primary source research and inspire them to consider the impact of these documents on American history and life. Six winning essays were chosen from over 1,000 submissions from across the state, and their authors received a trip to Nashville to become part of the VIP host committee that was the first to see the Emancipation Proclamation. This competition challenged young Tennesseans to connect history with their own lives while developing their research and writing skills.

UTAH

Brigham City Museum of Art and History, Brigham City, for the project *Outside the Homeland: The Intermountain Indian School.* This multi-component project focused on the Intermountain Indian School's more than thirty years of history in the city, and the impact of this institution on Native American life and culture in the twentieth century. Physical and online exhibits were combined with oral histories and talks to increase public knowledge of the school and its controversies.

VERMONT

Springfield Art and Historical Society, Alan E. Fusonie, and Donna Jean Fusonie, Springfield, for the publication *The Entrepreneurs and the Workers of the Soot: A History of the Foundry in Springfield, Vermont.* This book chronicles the development of the foundry industry in early America and how it played out in the town of Springfield through the manufacturing and machine tool industries. Combining historical photographs and maps with original scholarship, this work is dedicated to highlighting the contributions of common workers to the development of Springfield and foundry technology across the nation.



Rokeby Museum, Ferrisburgh, for the exhibit *Free and Safe: The Underground Railroad in Vermont.* This project tells the story of the Underground Railroad from the perspectives of fugitive slaves themselves. Focusing on Simon and Jesse, two fugitives who were sheltered at the Rokeby house in the 1830s, *Free and Safe* presents a moving and personal account of the journey to freedom. Historic letters, slave narratives, and an innovative presentation style help make this a moving and uniquely individual story.

VIRGINIA

William L. Lawrence, Gloucester, for his dedication to preserving the history of Gloucester County. Lawrence has been instrumental in preserving and publishing the history of his town and has served as a full-time volunteer since 2004. His many publications include *The History of the Botetourt Hotel* and *Old Houses, Mills Churches, and Historical Sites of Gloucester, Virginia,* and he generously donates all proceeds of his books to the Gloucester County Friends of the Museum.

Christopher M. Calkins, Rice, for his dedication to preserving the Civil War battlefield landscape of Virginia. Calkins worked for the National Park Service for thirty-four years before becoming Park Manager for Sailor's Creek Battlefield Historical State Park. He served on the board of directors of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites and helped broker the preservation of seven sites around Petersburg and Appomattox. Calkins shares his passion for battlefield preservation with the public through numerous publications, tours, and lectures.

Robert Russa Moton Museum, Petersburg, for the exhibit *The Moton School Story: Children of Courage*. This exhibit focuses on Prince Edward County's 1951–1964 struggles for school integration and the 1951 student protest case. *Davis v. Prince Edward* was one of five cases collectively decided in 1954 as *Brown v. Board of Education. The Moton School Story's* six galleries preserve and interpret Moton as a National Historic Landmark with original artifacts and elements while also presenting the school's history in the context of the national integration and civil rights debates.

WASHINGTON

Bainbridge Island Historical Museum, Bainbridge Island, for the exhibit *The Overland Westerners*. This exhibit commemorates the centennial anniversary of a remarkable cross-country journey that still stands as the longest documented horseback ride on record. Between 1912 and 1915, four men and a dog traveled to every state capital in the continental U.S., a journey of 20,352 miles. *The Overland Westerners* tells their story through primary sources and life-size sculptures and seeks to spread knowledge of this excursion to state capitols around the nation.

Lucy Ostrander and Don Sellers, Bainbridge Island, for the documentary *Honor and Sacrifice: The Roy Matsumoto Story.* This documentary traces the experiences of Japanese-Americans during World War II and the story of one family with contested loyalties. *Honor and Sacrifice* discusses Japanese immigration, wartime internment camps, and Matsumoto's service as a Japanese-American fighting against his own family in Japan. The film sheds light on the neglected history of Japanese-Americans during the war and has spurred a campaign to have Roy Matsumoto awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

WEST VIRGINIA

The Traveling 219 Project, Dunmore, for the website *Traveling 219: The Seneca Trail.* This multimedia project uses oral histories, articles, and Depression-era Federal Writers' Project guidebooks to document the communities along U.S. Route 219 in West Virginia and Maryland. It also engages the public with radio stories, newspaper articles, and storytell-ing performances. This project rediscovers the forgotten local history along Route 219 and uses the voices and memories of everyday people to document their lives and home.

WISCONSIN

Ward Irish Music Archives, Milwaukee, for the *Irish Sheet Music Archives Website*. This website was developed to offer worldwide access to the nearly 6,000 pieces of Irish-related sheet music in the Archives' collection, as well as to provide context and interpretation for these pieces. Users in over fiftyfive countries have utilized the site to learn about composers, song themes, cover art, and Irish culture through images and a searchable catalog.

Wisconsin Historical Society Press, Jesse J. Gant, and Nicholas J. Hoffman, Madison, for the publication *Wheel Fever: How Wisconsin Became a Great Bicycling State.* Authors Nicholas Hoffman and Jesse Gant examine the state's long-held love of bicycling in this work, which documents the bicycling boom and the social issues that came along with it. The book has also impacted state policy and advocacy for its considerations of access and equal rights in cycling's history.

Neenah Historical Society, Neenah, for the exhibit *Take Cover, Neenah: Backyard Family Fallout Shelters in Cold War America.* This exhibit uses artifacts recovered from a local backyard family fallout shelter to present the story of life in the midst of the Cold War in small-town America. The Society also constructed a full-size replica fallout shelter and integrated period films, songs, media, and images into the exhibit.

The Civil War Museum, Kenosha, for the multimedia experience *Seeing the Elephant*. This in-the-round film gives visitors a multi-sensory experience by placing them within period recruiting rallies, camps, and front lines of an Upper Midwestern company of soldiers. *Seeing the Elephant* is as close as one can get to experiencing the events of history at a museum.

2014 StEPs Graduates

his year, the AASLH Awards Banquet includes recognition of organizations that have reached the highest level in the StEPs program (Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations).

StEPs helps small and mid-sized history organizations assess policies and practices, manage daily operations, and plan for the future. AASLH launched the program in late 2009 after four years of development funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and involving more than 130 dedicated volunteers across thirty-three states who contributed thousands of hours of their time and expertise.

Organizations enrolled in StEPs earn certificates each time they report they have met all of the Basic (Bronze), Good (Silver), or Better (Gold) performance indicators in one of the six workbook sections. Since StEPs is a self-study program operated on the honor system, the certificates of completion



recognize significant progress, but do not constitute certification or accreditation. They do, however, signify that the organization is meeting national museum standards and is fully ready to move on to other assessment programs in the field.

Tonight we honor the following StEPs graduates that have earned Gold certificates in all six sections (or five for those organizations that do not own historic structures or landscapes):

Center for the History of Family Medicine LEAWOOD, KANSAS

Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs

White County Historical Society CARMI, ILLINOIS

Congratulations Graduates!

2014 Awards Program Volunteers

NATIONAL AWARDS CHAIR

Trina Nelson Thomas Director of Stark Art and History Venues, Orange, TX

Region 1

Jennifer Pustz, Chair Historic New England, Boston, MA

MAINE

Raney Bench Seal Cove Auto Museum, Mount Desert

MASSACHUSETTS

Susan Goganian Beverly Historical Society, Beverly

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Vacant

VERMONT

Elsa Gilbertson Chimney Point, Mount Independence, Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Sites, Addison

Region 2

Ronald Potvin, Chair John Nicholas Brown Center for Public Humanities, Providence, RI

CONNECTICUT

Stephen Bartkus Gunn Memorial Museum, Washington

NEW JERSEY

Timothy Hart Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission, Toms River

NEW YORK

Vacant

RHODE ISLAND

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Region 3

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Erin Carlson Mast President Lincoln's Cottage, Washington

MARYLAND

Mark R. Thompson Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, Saint Leonard

PENNSYLVANIA

Jeff Hawks Army Heritage Center Foundation, Carlisle

Melinda Meyer Erie Yesterday, Erie

Region 4

Mike Bunn, Chair Historic Chattahoochee Commission, Eufaula, AL

ALABAMA

Karen R. Utz Sloss Furnaces National Historical Landmark, Birmingham

FLORIDA

Jon Hill Pensacola Lighthouse and Museum, Pensacola

GEORGIA

Sylvia Naguib Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, Atlanta

Region 5

Rikki Davenport, Chair Drayton Hall, Charleston, SC

KENTUCKY

Sarah Milligan Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort

NORTH CAROLINA

Raelana Poteat North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh

SOUTH CAROLINA

Stephanie Thomas The Charleston Museum, Charleston

VIRGINIA

Cheryl Jackson Virginia Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, Richmond

WEST VIRGINIA

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

Region 6

Janna Bennett, Chair Children's Museum of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN

ILLINOIS

Jeanne Schultz Angel Illinois Association of Museums, Springfield

INDIANA

Tamara Hemmerlein Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis

MICHIGAN

Alex Forist Grand Rapids Public Museum, Grand Rapids

OHIO

Jason Crabill Ohio History Connection, Columbus

Region 7

Katie Stringer, Chair Blount Mansion Association, Knoxville, TN

ARKANSAS

Allyn Lord Shiloh Museum of Ozark History, Springdale A special thank you to the AASLH 2013–14 regional and state awards team leaders (as of March 1) who helped make the AASLH Leadership in History Awards possible.

LOUISIANA

Charlotte Wall Louisiana's Old State Capitol, Baton Rouge

MISSISSIPPI

Rachel Myers Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience, Jackson

TENNESSEE

Katie Stringer Blount Mansion Association, Knoxville

Adam H. Alfrey East Tennessee Historical Society, Knoxville

Region 8

Vacant

NEW MEXICO Vacant

OKLAHOMA

Adam Lynn Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher

TEXAS

Daniel Schlegel Jr. Scurry County Museum, Snyder

Region 9

Nicholas Hoffman, Chair 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

Alexandra Detrick, Chair Missouri Historical Museum, St. Louis, MO

KANSAS Vacant

MISSOURI

Anne Cox State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia

NEBRASKA

Vacant

Region 11

Shannon Haltiwanger, Chair History Colorado, Denver, CO

COLORADO

Cameo Hoyle Telluride Historical Museum, Inc., Telluride

MONTANA

Benjamin Clark MonDak Heritage Center, Sidney

NORTH DAKOTA

Danielle Stuckle State Historical Society of North Dakota, North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck

SOUTH DAKOTA

Sue Gates Dacotah Prairie Museum, Aberdeen

WYOMING

Sylvia Bruner Johnson County Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum, Buffalo

Region 12

Shelby Day, Chair Archaeologist, Portland, OR

ALASKA

Vacant

IDAHO

Michael Vogt Basque Museum and Cultural Center, Boise

OREGON

Brian J. Carter Oregon Historical Society, Portland

WASHINGTON

Susan Rohrer State Capital Museum, Olympia

Region 13

Wendy Franklin, Chair Independent Museum Professional, Sacramento, CA

CALIFORNIA

Carmen Blair San Mateo County Historical Association, Redwood City

Bradley Williams Ninth Judicial Circuit Court, Pasadena

HAWAII

Vacant

Region 14

Lisa Anderson, Chair Mesa Historical Society, Mesa, AZ

ARIZONA

Jody Crago Chandler Museum, Chandler

Janice Klein EightSixSix Consulting, Tempe

NEVADA

Vacant

UTAH

Kaia Landon Brigham City Museum, Brigham City



THANK YOU

FOR ATTENDING THE 2014 AASLH AWARDS BANQUET.

We hope you will join us for

the 2015 AASLH Awards Banquet in Louisville, Kentucky.

If you know of an individual or project deserving of an award,

we encourage you to submit a nomination.

Please contact the AASLH office or visit our website at aaslh.org for information.



