



American Association for
State and Local History

2016 Annual Report

Table of Contents

- 3** Letter from the Council Chair
- 4** Letter from the President
- 8** AASLH 2016 Impact
- 9** Membership Report
- 10** Finance Report
- 11** StEPs Enrolls 800th Organization in 2016
- 13** Annual Meeting Report: Detroit 2016
- 14** Leadership in History Awards
- 19** Donor Report
- 21** AASLH Council Members and Staff



Letter from the Council Chair

For 75 years, AASLH has been bringing history organizations together to share the stories of all Americans. At AASLH we know that history is not just about the past; it gives us context and meaning for today. It helps explain circumstances, teaches critical skills for functioning in the modern world, and challenges us to ask questions.

Just as 75 years ago it would have been hard to imagine today's world, it is impossible for us today to imagine the future, but we can see with certainty that circumstances are changing for history organizations. Sources of financial support are being reconfigured, the pace of information is ramping up, there are innumerable new ways information rolls out, and the nation appears to be more fragmented than ever.

What our public wants from us is also changing. They want to see themselves in the history we present, and they want to be part of the conversation. They want programs and exhibits on topics they are interested in, which are not necessarily the ones we want to present. They want ways to experience events and to express their own opinions. Though museums are still trusted organizations, the public wants to question our methods and sources and share their own expertise.

These circumstances affect AASLH, our organizations, and ourselves as individuals. What must we do to survive, retain the public trust, and to preserve and interpret the history of all Americans?

AASLH is well positioned to bring us together to answer these questions. Council and staff have built a strategic framework with five goals: promote history's relevance; build diversity and inclusion; further a representative, responsive association; increase organizational sustainability and transparency; and act with creativity and an experimental spirit.

As AASLH goes into its next 75 years, we have thousands of members in rural communities, urban sites, small historical societies, and large history centers across the United States. We have a strong and energetic staff, an extensive network of colleagues (read: "volunteers") across the country, and a Council working to build a strong and creative future for the organization that serves us so well. We provide national leadership for members and support for one another so that we can do the important work of making the past more meaningful to all Americans.

Sincerely,



Katherine Kane
AASLH Council Chair
Executive Director, Harriet Beecher Stowe Center



Council Meeting in Detroit



AASLH staff volunteering at the Nashville Food Project in a new holiday tradition

Letter from the President



AASLH's "new" office in Nashville

While 2015 was a year of transition for AASLH, 2016 was one of building upward and outward. In the first quarter of the year we successfully reached our 75th anniversary fundraising goal of raising \$75,000 for the 75 for 75 Campaign (thank you to all who contributed). The infusion of these funds and healthy revenue from membership, marketing, annual meeting, and other programs allowed AASLH to expand in several ways. In April, we unveiled a new membership database and association management system that operates at the core of almost everything the AASLH staff and volunteers do. In June, we increased the staff size from eight to nine by creating a new position for coordinating AASLH's continuing education efforts, thereby meeting the growing demand for workshops and webinars. Over the course of three busy days in October, not long after the 2016 Annual Meeting, the AASLH staff moved the office to a new location in Nashville, thus completing a long series of major and minor infrastructural improvements throughout the year. Our new historic office is in the former St. Bernard's Convent, which was built in 1905. It has half the square footage, but feels more spacious and inspiring, and will save the organization over ten thousand dollars a year.

Strategic Goals

Most important for the organization's growth was the AASLH Council, led by then-AASLH Chair Julie Rose, creating a challenging three-year strategic plan. It focuses us on 1) promoting history relevance, 2) building diversity and inclusion, 3) acting with creativity and an experimental

spirit, 4) strengthening organizational sustainability and transparency, and 5) enabling AASLH to be a representative, responsive association. The plan emerged from the work of the Aspirations Task Force, Council, and staff in 2015 and 2016. Long before the strategic plan was completed, AASLH Council, committees, and staff began using its values and goals to shape the organization's activities.

One of our first priorities in 2016, and really in the couple of years prior as well, has been to increase diversity and inclusion. The Leadership Nominating Committee had already been working to diversify the Council itself, from gender to geography and service to employment experience. In 2014, there were three people from underrepresented groups out of twenty-one members of Council; now there are six, and fifteen of the twenty-one Council members are women. Five members live in the West, five in the Midwest, two in the South, three in New England, and six in the Mid-Atlantic region. In addition, when Council met in June in Nashville, besides shaping the strategic plan, they adopted this Diversity and Inclusion Statement: "Everyone makes history. Relevant history is inclusive history. So, we

are investing in forward-thinking scholarship and expanded diversity of our field, and choosing partners who make equity a priority.” Meanwhile, the 2016 Annual Meeting emphasized diversity and inclusion with the topics of both keynote speakers as well as twenty-eight of the eighty-seven sessions. And AASLH gave twelve diversity scholarships for the Annual Meeting this year rather than the usual single scholarship: two of these were the Douglas Evelyn Scholarships for Diversity, and ten more were funded by the Host Committee.

Diversity and inclusion was also something we addressed in the operations of AASLH and in other programs. For example, we added to the demographic information we collect. With geography and gender, we have added race/ethnicity in the triennial Membership Survey and in the Annual Meeting evaluation survey. During the summer we added a second paid internship in the office, drawing a student from the Minnesota Historical Society’s History Museum Fellows diversity program; we plan to do this again in 2017. One of our four annual Technical Leaflets focused on “Incorporating Diversity and Inclusion into Young Adult Programs,” many articles in *History News* addressed inclusiveness, and we launched a new quarterly column in the magazine on diversity and inclusion. Our Awards Committee began incorporating diversity and inclusion into the awards criteria; of the sixty-eight AASLH Leadership in History Awards presented this year, twenty-one focused on diverse history and/or engaged diverse audiences in a creative, meaningful way. Staff, with the help of volunteers, created four new webinars: “Cultivating Diversity and Inclusion at Museums and Historic Sites,” “Civil Rights and a Civil Society: Strategies for Community Outreach and Engagement,” “Interpreting Native American History and Culture,” and the upcoming “Interpreting LGBT History.”

Membership and Volunteers

The membership of the organization increased by a few percent in size from the year before both in the individual member and institutional member categories, and we worked to learn from and broaden membership diversity. Most exciting in 2016 was the creation of a new category of membership for

Letter from the President

Academic Programs. We envisioned this for public history and museum studies programs, but among the thirty-one programs signed up so far there are also several history departments, an American Studies program, and an Indigenous Studies program. Our aim is to reach graduate students before they enter the field as new professionals, to encourage faculty to integrate AASLH resources into the curriculum, and generally to build connections between the more scholarly side of the historical discipline and the thousands of institutions and organizations that form the greater portion of the AASLH membership.

Thanks to a couple of hundred individual volunteers, AASLH committees accomplish a lot every year, and 2016 was no different. From standing committees (listed in the Bylaws), to task forces (appointed for discrete projects and purposes), to the organizing committees of our eleven Affinity Groups, there is an amazing amount of energy and ideas flowing into the work of the association. Thank you, everyone, who serves in one of these capacities. In late 2016, the Executive Committee and Council created three new task forces: a Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion, a Task Force on Creativity and Experimentation, and a Task Force on the Semiquincentennial of the United States. Here we are today, forty years after the Bicentennial, and ten years in front of the 250th anniversary of the nation’s birth. The Task Force on the Semiquincentennial will begin laying plans in the next few years to help us all be ready and resilient in 2026.

Detroit Annual Meeting

Certainly the biggest programmatic news of the year is always the AASLH Annual Meeting, which accounts for twenty-five percent of the association’s overall revenue. Led by Chief of Operations Bethany Hawkins, all staff members here play a role in this annual event. The Detroit conference, held jointly with the Michigan Museums Association, happened to be one of our best ever. We experienced a near attendance record (about a thousand participants), perfect weather, and beautiful meeting space along the Detroit River. Sessions, workshops, tours, and meal and evening events all received high marks from attendees. The combination of fun (evening events at the Detroit Historical Society, Charles H. Wright Museum, Michigan Science Center, and Detroit



Martha Reeves performing at the Awards Banquet in Detroit

Institute of Arts; a yoga class; keynote by Mary Wilson of the Supremes; and Awards dinner dancing with Martha Reeves & the Vandellas) with critically engaging program content (including Tom Sugrue on segregation in Detroit) and practical sessions and a noticeable upsurge in participation by graduate students and academically- employed historians created more intersections for rich discussion. Our local Host Committee and the Program Committee were incredible partners.

Programs

AASLH's national Leadership in History Awards program this past year received the highest number of submissions of the past decade. One of our strongest programs, the awards draw local and national attention to the hard work and innovative ideas of scores of individuals and institutions each year (sixty-eight in 2016). An Awards Committee consisting of fourteen regional chairs oversaw a team of about forty state captains in soliciting and then reviewing dozens of submissions from across the land. The group is extremely dedicated, year after year, and does an astounding job, assisted by AASLH staff members Bethany Hawkins and Aja Bain. In the coming year we will try to get award submissions from all fifty states and do better



Summer interns Makiki Reuvers and Caroline Montgomery in the middle of Makiki's reorganization of AASLH's archives

at sharing the success stories of the winning projects and programs. There is much to be emulated in what the award recipients are accomplishing, which means our challenge is to share their creative solutions in ways that more of the history community can draw upon.

Our StEPs program—Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations—now includes more than 840 institutions. This self-study program designed specifically for small- to mid-sized history organizations, including volunteer-run institutions, was created with a grant from IMLS in 2008. AASLH Senior Program Manager Cherie Cook runs StEPs with a deft hand and is planning a process in 2017 to begin enhancing the StEPs workbook and overall program. In fall 2016, AASLH and the New England Museum Association started a joint effort to promote StEPs among New England institutions, and AASLH staff have been focusing on building relationships with the state humanities councils to share the StEPs program.

Letter from the President

AASLH's publishing imprint with Rowman & Littlefield has thrived thanks to our growing roster of authors and an enthusiastic Editorial Board, guided by AASLH Chief of Engagement Bob Beatty. One of the titles in our relatively new Interpreting History series, Susan Ferentinos's *Interpreting LGBT History at Museums and Historic Sites*, won the National Council on Public History's annual Book Award in 2016. Several years back we were publishing two or three titles a year, then six or seven in recent years, and now are expecting about twenty in 2016-2017. As the publishing program expands, we are working with the Editorial Board and authors to enhance the book proposal and manuscript review process.

History News, also under Bob Beatty's purview, continues to evolve as a magazine and vital record of changes in the field, and, according to our periodic surveys of members, remains the most popular aspect of membership. Distributed within the pages of *History News* and online as PDFs, the AASLH Technical Leaflet series reached numbers 273 to 276 this year with these four titles: "Demonstrating Relevance," "Incorporating Diversity and Inclusion into Young Adult Programs," "Staying Connected: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Contact Lists," and "How to Make a Podcast."

Continuing education and professional development, even after seventy years of programming, is a potential growth area for AASLH. All the way back to the 1940s, continuing education has been one of our core functions. AASLH has always served professionals and volunteers, no matter their level of education or training, who were striving to operate historical institutions, sites, and organizations. Our training appeared as print pamphlets and articles, as well as workshops and courses. Today we also offer online access to most of these publications and trainings. Our new Education and Service Coordinator, Amber Mitchell, is helping us to offer new continuing education elements while re-organizing the parts into a total curriculum that is more self-explanatory and navigable for users. In addition to the new webinars on diversity and inclusion and other topics, we began working with the Organization of American Historians to develop a new series on historiography.

Perhaps the most refined and intense form of



Current and former AASLH Council members with their 5-Year Museums Advocacy Day Participation Awards

Letter from the President

AASLH members benefit from the coalition's tracking of and response to legislative and executive branch issues that impact the historical community. AASLH also is a sponsor of and participant in the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) annual Museums Advocacy Day. In fact, the AASLH Council meets in Washington, D.C., each February precisely so that Council members may participate in the two-day Museums Advocacy Day activities. In 2017, we will continue the practice; Bethany Hawkins will join me and Council members in making the visits to Congressional offices arranged by AAM.

The History Relevance Campaign grew in 2016, having found more endorers for its Value of History Statement. I am one of the group's earliest members and serve on its four-person executive committee and its steering committee, and AASLH is contributing more in-kind support to the campaign's work. For example, AASLH facilitated the History Relevance Campaign's creation of a new website (to be launched in January 2017), and is leading the effort to write a grant for a Common Metrics of Impact project and for a national set of conversations about the Value of History statement. The Impact project is particularly needed. The History Relevance Campaign organized two national summits in Washington, D.C., in 2016, one at the National Museum of American History in May and the other at the National Archives and Records Administration in October, and loud and clear at both was a call for clear ways of measuring and demonstrating how history organizations are making a difference in their communities.

The Diversity and Inclusion statement that Council adopted in June 2016 begins, "Everyone makes history. Relevant history is inclusive history." History relevance in 2016 permeated every aspect of the work of the AASLH, and aligned with diversity and inclusion, it will shape all of our activities in the coming year.

Best Regards,

John Dichtl
President & CEO, AASLH

continuing education that AASLH is able to help offer is the Seminar for Historical Administration, or "Developing History Leaders @ SHA," which is made possible by the SHA Partners: Indiana Historical Society, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Nantucket Historical Association, National Association for Interpretation, Conner Prairie, and the International Preservation Studies Center. John Durel, SHA coordinator for the past seven years, announced his retirement in 2016, and the partners will open a search in early 2017 for a replacement to begin work next summer preparing for November's class in Indianapolis. Many do not realize that the thirty faculty members for SHA each year donate their time. Thank you to them, to the partners, to the sponsoring organizations, and to the alumni who contribute their support.

Coalitions, Collaboration, and Advocacy

In addition to SHA, the AASLH participates in many other partnerships, coalitions, and collaborations. Most of these take the staff and I to various conferences around the country. In 2016, between these relationships, the workshops we organize with the help of local partner institutions, and other meetings, we visited twenty-three states plus the District of Columbia.

One of the last collaborative, convening sorts of functions of the year for AASLH occurs each December when we organize SHAM, the State Historical Administrators Meeting. This year it was in Savannah, Georgia, ably hosted by the Georgia Historical Society. Twenty-seven leaders of state historical societies, museums, historical commissions, and departments of history and archives met for two days of discussion about topics ranging from Confederate monuments to social media, millennials, and sources of revenue for history organizations. For the past several years, AASLH has also helped to organize the Presidential Sites and Libraries Conference, which will meet next in 2018. In addition, in late 2016 we began exploring the idea of convening a meeting, during our annual conference, for the state historians of each state that has such a position.

Throughout 2016, AASLH expanded its role in the National Coalition for History, the American Alliance of Museums' Museums Advocacy Day, and the History Relevance Campaign. Besides being crucial forms of advocacy, these relationships address AASLH's strategic goal of promoting the relevance of history. I regularly collaborate with the advocacy and education group, the National Coalition for History and serve on their board, and

The Numbers for 2016

1400+

Individuals Served by
AASLH Continuing
Education Events

.....

790

New Members

.....

32

Scholarships Given

.....

41

Continuing
Education
Events:

9 Workshops

23 Webinars

9 Online Courses

.....

105,000

Reached on
Social Media

*engaged users on Twitter
and Facebook

.....

165

StEPs Certificates
Awarded

.....

Annual Meeting
Attendees:

967

15

New Books
Published

.....

23

States
Visited by
AASLH Staff in 2016

.....

68

Awards
Given

*10 Year Record for
Award Nominations

Enrolled

800th

Organization in StEPs

Membership Report

Membership dues are the wellspring of our efforts, comprising nearly 40 percent of AASLH's annual operating budget. It is fitting that membership dues should make up such a large part of our operating budget.

- AASLH total membership was 5,590 as of 6/30/16 showing an increase from FY2015.
- AASLH welcomed 790 new members in 2016.
- AASLH debuted the Academic Program Membership in the spring with 30 institutions enrolled serving over 150 faculty and students.
- AASLH added a New Professional Membership category last year as well for people just starting their history career.
- We estimate the total number of people served through Institutional and Academic Program memberships to be over 10,950.
- AASLH maintained a retention rate of 82.2%.

As an organization, we exist to serve our members; advocating for their needs on a national level and supporting their practice of history on a local level. It is precisely because of our members' innovation, expertise, and commitment that we have the reputation and authority needed to advance the field. Whether serving on volunteer committees, sharing new ideas at the Annual Meeting, or working hard in local communities to make history matter, AASLH members are essential to the field of state and local history.

Your membership dues allow us to continue supporting your work and gathering together passionate practitioners of history for greater collective impact.

Your membership matters. Thank you for being a part of this effort.



Members dancing to Martha Reeves and the Vandellas at the Annual Meeting



An Annual Meeting attendee listens during a session on Democratizing Historical Practice

Finance Report

FY 2016 Audited Statements • Year Ending June 30, 2016

Statement of Financial Position

Current Assets

	2016	2015
Cash and cash equivalents	\$146,617	\$152,117
Grants receivable	-	\$34,077
Accounts receivable	\$73,849	\$74,360
Other assets	\$85,548	\$71,660
Total current assets	\$306,014	\$332,214
Property and equipment	\$70,907	\$77,990
Investments, substantially restricted	\$1,496,273	\$1,340,584
Total Assets	\$1,873,194	\$1,750,788

Liabilities and Capital

Current Liabilities	2016	2015
Accounts payable	\$49,370	\$44,190
Unearned revenue	\$494,411	\$432,795
Total current liabilities	\$543,781	\$476,985
Net assets		
Unrestricted	(\$182,921)	(\$238,531)
Permanently restricted	\$1,512,334	\$1,512,334
Total net assets	\$1,873,194	\$1,273,803

Statement of Activities

Revenues, gains, and other support	Unrestricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Total revenues, gains, and other support	\$1,411,164	-	\$1,411,164
Operating expenses	\$792,406	-	\$792,406
Supporting services	\$563,148	-	\$563,148
Total Operating Expenses	\$1,355,554	-	\$1,355,554
Change in net assets from operations	\$55,610	-	\$55,610
Net assets, beginning of year	(\$238,531)	\$1,512,334	\$1,273,803
Net assets, year-end	(\$182,921)	\$1,512,334	\$1,329,413
Statement of Cash Flow			
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(\$5,500)		
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	\$152,117		
Total	\$146,617		



StEPs Enrolls 800th Organization in 2016

StEPs (Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations) is AASLH's entry level assessment program for small-to mid-sized history organizations. With StEPs, history organizations have, for the first time, specific recommendations for improving the daily management of their institution, planning for the future, and meeting national museum standards.

AASLH believes that participation in a state-based or other StEPs community of practice offers the best opportunity for organizations to make meaningful progress in the self-study program. Examples of StEPs communities of practice and other StEPs activities include:

- The longest running and most structured StEPs community of practice is sponsored by Connecticut Humanities and the Connecticut League of History Organizations in partnership with the Connecticut Historical Society. StEPs-CT offers professional development, facilitated conversation, and mentorship opportunities. Organizations that complete the two-year program receive exclusive access to competitive grant funds. Since 2012, 47 organizations have benefitted from the StEPs-CT program.
- The Ohio History Connection has formed StEPs groups across the state with funding and staff from the AmeriCorps program.
- The Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission in Toms River, New Jersey, will soon begin guiding six to nine organizations in the county through StEPs by offering workshops, hiring mentors, and other activities. Funding for the project is through the New Jersey Historical Commission.
- Both Humanities Nebraska and the North Carolina Humanities Council hope to increase capacity in small history organizations that participate in the Museums on Main Street program in their states by paying for StEPs program enrollment.
- The Museum Association of Arizona is launching a support group for organizations enrolled in StEPs.
- In both Kentucky and New Jersey, local history organizations taking part in an assessment program like StEPs are eligible to apply for grant funding through the Kentucky Historical Society and New Jersey Historical Commission.
- Minnesota's Legacy Grant program, administered by the Minnesota Historical Society, offers grant funding for organization that want to work on StEPs with the help of a consultant.



A school tour at Fort Worth Aviation Museum*



Tori Mason, Historic Site Manager at Grassmere Historic Farm*



AASLH President/CEO John Dichtl visits Stonington's Old Lighthouse Museum*

* StEPs Organizations

Organizations Earning StEPs Certificates in 2016

Amelia Island Museum of History, Fernandina Beach, FL	Planes of Fame Air Museum, Chino, CA
Andrew L. Tuttle Memorial Museum, Defiance, OH	Redmond Historical Society, Redmond, WA
Andrew Low House, Savannah, GA	Rocky Mountain Museum of Military History, Missoula, MT
Avery-Copp House, Groton, CT	Rowan Museum, Inc., Salisbury, NC
Baker Heritage Museum, Baker City, OR	Schroeder Area Historical Society, Schroeder, MN
Bay-Lakes Council Scout Museum, BSA, Oostburg, WI	Shasta Historical Society, Redding, CA
Colchester Historical Society, Colchester, CT	Shelton Historical Society, Shelton, CT
Connecticut Valley Tobacco Historical Society, Windsor, CT	Smith-Harris House, Niantic, CT
Cornwall Historical Society, Cornwall, CT	Society of the Founders of Norwich, Norwich, CT
Deep River Historical Society, Deep River, CT	South Euclid-Lyndhurst Historical Society, South Euclid, OH
Denison Homestead Museum, Mystic, CT	Sycamore History Museum, Sycamore, IL
DuPage County Historical Museum, Wheaton, IL	Temple Railroad & Heritage Museum, Temple, TX
Essex Historical Society, Essex, CT	Tennessee Agricultural Museum, Nashville, TN
Finland MN Historical Society, Finland, MN	The Dudley Foundation/Dudley Farm, Guilford, CT
Fort Worth Aviation Museum, Fort Worth, TX	The Richland County Historical Society, Mansfield, OH
Geneva History Museum, Geneva, IL	The Royce J. and Caroline B. Watts Museum, Morgantown, WV
Greenville-Greene County History Museum, Greenville, TN	The Salisbury Association, Salisbury, CT
Groton Public Library, Groton, CT	The Stickley Museum at Craftsman Farms, Parsippany, NJ
Guilford Keeping Society, Guilford, CT	The Stonington Historical Society, Stonington, CT
Haddam Historical Society, Haddam, CT	The Sutliff Museum, Warren, OH
Harwinton Historical Society, Harwinton, CT	Travellers Rest Plantation and Museum, Nashville, TN
Hassan Area Historical Society, Rogers, MN	Vashon-Maury Island Heritage Association, Vashon, WA
HEARTS Veterans Museum, Huntsville, TX	Wallingford Historic Preservation Trust, Wallingford, CT
Historic Sam Davis Home and Plantation, Smyrna, TN	Warrenville Historical Society, Warrenville, IL
Liberty Bell Museum, Allentown, PA	Washington County Historical Society, Inc., West Bend, WI
Manitowoc County Historical Society, Manitowoc, WI	Westport Historical Society, Westport, CT
Maplewood Area Historical Society, Maplewood, MN	Whitesbog Preservation Trust, Browns Mills, NJ
Maxine & Jesse Whitney Museum, Valdez, AK	Wood Memorial Library and Museum, South Windsor, CT
Military Historical Society of Minnesota, Inc., Little Falls, MN	
National Frontier Trails Museum, Independence, MO	
National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Louisville, KY	
Naugatuck Historical Society, Naugatuck, CT	
New Britain Industrial Museum, New Britain, CT	
PBY – Naval Air Museum, Oak Harbor, WA	
Pioneer Museum Fredericksburg, Fredericksburg, TX	
Plainfield Public Library Local History Department, Plainfield, NJ	

2016 AASLH/MMA Annual Meeting

Detroit, MI • September 14-17



AASLH partnered with the Michigan Museums Association for our 2016 Annual Meeting. The meeting was a great success with four days of thought-provoking sessions, inspiring keynote speakers, and wonderful tours and evening events that gave attendees a true taste of Detroit. David Janssen, program chair, and Mark Heppner, host chair, helped to plan a great meeting. AASLH would also like to thank Lisa Craig Brisson and the MMA Board and volunteers for their help with the meeting.

Here are some statistics:

- 967 attendees
- 93 sessions and workshops
- Over 140 volunteers including the Program and Host Committees
- 30 scholarships provided by the Host Committee, MMA, and AASLH
- Two Motown superstars
- 215 people attended The Henry Ford Un-Conference on Saturday

Special thanks to all of our sponsors who helped make the conference possible.

The 2017 Annual will be held September 6-9 in Austin, Texas. The theme is I AM History. Learn more at go.aaslh.org/2017.

Presenting Sponsor



Ford Motor Company Fund

Premium Sponsors



Where
the past
is present

**DETROIT
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**



EDSEL & ELEANOR FORD HOUSE



A National Historic Landmark

**NATIONAL
RESTORATION, INC.**

SMITHGROUP JJR

Gold Sponsors



**QUINN EVANS
ARCHITECTS**



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsor



Networking Sponsors

Michigan History Center
National Arab American Museum



AASLH
American Association
for State and Local History

Leadership in History Awards

Now in its 72nd year, the Leadership in History Awards program serves to recognize the best in local history by celebrating the innovative projects, exhibits, collaborations, publications, and people that make our field dynamic and relevant to today's audiences. These awards are the highest distinction conferred by AASLH and represent the culmination of months of preparation by nominees and deliberation by the awards committee. In 2016, we had 68 award winners in 27 states.

The Michael Kammen Award

Gunn Historical Museum, Washington, CT

The Albert B. Corey Award

Glencoe Historical Society, Glencoe, IL



Coloring Independently, California African American Museum



Strong-Howard House Reinterpretation Project

Awards of Merit

California

Name: 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

Nomination: for the exhibit We Remember Them: Acts of Love and Compassion in Isla Vista and the May 23, 2014 Isla Vista Memorial Archive

Name: California African American Museum, Stephanie DeLancey, and dewdropstudios

Nomination: for the exhibit Coloring Independently: 1940s African American Film Stills from the Collection of the California African American Museum

Name: Oakland Museum of California

Nomination: for the exhibit Pacific Worlds

Connecticut

Name: Gunn Historical Museum

Nomination: for the exhibit Over There: Washington and the Great War

Name: Connecticut's Old State House

Nomination: for the project Connecticut's Kid Governor

Name: Fairfield Museum and History Center

Nomination: for the exhibit The Pequot War and the Founding of Fairfield, 1637-1639

Name: Stephanie Lantiere

Nomination: for her leadership and dedication to improving the professional practices of the Avery Memorial Association

Name: Windsor Historical Society

Nomination: for the Strong-Howard House Reinterpretation Project

This nomination is also the recipient of a HIP (History in Progress) Award.

Delaware

Name: Aleasa Jay Hogate

Nomination: for her dedicated and committed service to the collections, preservation, and interpretation of the 17th-century New Sweden Colony in the Delaware Valley

District of Columbia

Name: President Lincoln's Cottage

Nomination: for the project 2015 Students Opposing Slavery International Summit

Name: Ford's Theatre Society

Nomination: for the Remembering Lincoln Digital Collection

Florida

Name: HistoryMiami Museum

Nomination: for the exhibit Operation Pedro Pan: The Cuban Children's Exodus

Illinois

Name: Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site

Nomination: for the project Wetlands & Waterways: The Key to Cahokia



History Clubhouse, Missouri History Museum

Leadership in History Awards

Name: Pat Miller

Nomination: for her decades of work as a champion for small museums and state history

Name: Jane Nicoll

Nomination: for a lifetime of dedication to preserving and interpreting the history of Park Forest, IL

Name: Elgin History Museum, Grindstone Productions, and Ernie Broadnax

Nomination: for the project Two Boxcars, Three Blocks, One City: A Story of Elgin's African American Heritage

Indiana

Name: Wilma L. Moore

Nomination: for a lifetime of dedication to preserving and interpreting Indiana's African American heritage

Name: Indiana Historical Society

Nomination: for the project Indiana History for the Secondary Classroom

Iowa

Name: State Historical Museum of Iowa

Nomination: for the exhibit First in the Nation: Shaping Presidential Politics Since 1972

Kansas

Name: Sandy Gantz, Constitution Hall, and Lecompton Historical Society

Nomination: for the project 4th Graders' QR Codes for Historic Sites in Lecompton, Kansas

Louisiana

Name: The Historic New Orleans Collection

Nomination: for the project *Purchased Lives: New Orleans and the Domestic Slave Trade, 1808-1865*

Name: West Baton Rouge Museum

Nomination: for the project *Cohn High School: How We Love Thee*

Maryland

Name: Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum

Nomination: for the project *Artifacts of Outlander: Connecting the Public to History and Archaeology Using Popular Culture*

Massachusetts

Name: Massachusetts Historical Society

Nomination: for the exhibit *The Private Jefferson: From the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*

Name: Peabody Essex Museum

Nomination: for the project *Re-envisioning the Ropes Mansion*

Name: Historic New England, Justin H. Goodstein, and the Haymarket Pushcart Association

Nomination: for *The Haymarket Project*

Minnesota

Name: Archives and Special Collections, University of Minnesota Libraries

Nomination: for the exhibit *People on the Move: 50 Years of Documenting and Researching Migration Experiences at the Immigration History Research Center & Archives*

Name: Maritime Heritage Minnesota

Nomination: for the *Minnesota Dugout Canoe Project*

Name: James A. Stolpestad and Ramsey County Historical Society

Nomination: for the publication *Custom House: Restoring a St. Paul Landmark in Lowertown*

Name: Brenda J. Child

Nomination: for the publication *My Grandfather's Knocking Sticks: Ojibwe Family Life and Labor on the Reservation*

Leadership in History Awards

Name: Anton Treuer

Nomination: for the publication *Warrior Nation: A History of the Red Lake Ojibwe*

Name: Minnesota Historical Society

Nomination: for the project *Peb Yog Hmoob – We Are Hmong Minnesota*

This nomination is also the recipient of a HIP (History in Progress) Award.

Missouri

Name: The National Museum of Toys and Miniatures and West Office Exhibition Design

Nomination: for the exhibit *Toys from the Attic: Stories of American Childhood*

Name: St. Louis County Parks -- Jefferson Barracks Historic Site

Nomination: for the exhibit *The Courageous and Faithful: The Cavalry at Jefferson Barracks*

Name: 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

Nomination: for the project *Over There: Missouri & the Great War*

Name: Missouri History Museum

Nomination: for the exhibit *A Walk in 1875 St. Louis*

Name: Missouri History Museum

Nomination: for the project *History Clubhouse*

Montana

Name: Montana Historical Society

Nomination: for the exhibit *Forgotten Pioneers: The Chinese in Montana*

New Jersey

Name: Morven Museum & Garden

Nomination: for the project *Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh: Couple of an Age*

New Mexico

Name: New Mexico History Museum, Judy Reinhartz, Ph.D., and Dennis Reinhartz, Ph.D.

Nomination: for the project *Mapas historicas de Nuevo Mexico = Historic New Mexico Maps*

Name: Joy Poole

Nomination: for the publication *Over the Santa Fe Trail to Mexico: The Travel Diaries and Autobiography of Dr. Rowland Willard*

New York

Name: The Cayuga Heights History Project

Nomination: for the Cayuga Heights History Project website

Name: Brooklyn Historical Society

Nomination: for the project *Crossing Borders, Bridging Generations*

Name: Bruce W. Dearstyne

Nomination: for the publication *The Spirit of New York: Defining Events in the Empire State's History*

North Carolina

Name: North Carolina Museum of History

Nomination: for the exhibit *Starring North Carolina!*

Name: Greensboro Historical Museum

Nomination: for the exhibit *Warnersville: Our Home, Our Neighborhood, Our Stories*

Leadership in History Awards



Carillon Brewing Company, Dayton History

Name: North Carolina Office of Archives and History, Mark Anderson Moore, Jessica A. Bandel, and Michael Hill

Nomination: for the publication *The Old North State at War: The North Carolina Civil War Atlas*

Ohio

Name: Dayton History

Nomination: for the Carillon Brewing Company

Name: Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens

Nomination: for the program *Meet the Staff – Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens/Akron Public Schools Place-Based Education Curricula*

Name: Brian Albrecht and James Banks

Nomination: for the publication *Cleveland in World War II*

Pennsylvania

Name: Pennsylvania Lumber Museum and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

Nomination: for the exhibit *Challenges and Choices in Pennsylvania's Forests*

Name: Senator John Heinz History Center

Nomination: for the exhibit *We Can Do It! WWII*



Hear, Here: Voices of Downtown La Crosse

Leadership in History Awards

Utah

Name: LDS Church Historic Sites Division

Nomination: for the Priesthood Restoration Historic Site

Virginia

Name: Birthplace of Country Music Museum

Nomination: for the Birthplace of Country Music Museum permanent exhibits

Washington

Name: Museum of History & Industry, Jazmyn Scott, and Aaron Walker-Loud

Nomination: for the exhibit The Legacy of Seattle Hip-Hop

Name: Washington State Historical Society

Nomination: for the publication *COLUMBLA: The Magazine of Northwest History*

Wisconsin

Name: 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

Nomination: for the project Hear, Here: Voices of Downtown La Crosse

Wyoming

Name: Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation

Nomination: for the program Saving WWII History: Preserving an Original Structure from an American Concentration Camp

Name: Cliveden

Nomination: for the program Liberty to Go to See

Tennessee

Name: Stones River National Battlefield

Nomination: for the program Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African American Memories

Name: Historic Travellers Rest Plantation & Museum

Nomination: for the exhibit A Past Uncovered: The Story of the Enslaved People of Travellers Rest

Name: Nashville Public Library

Nomination: for the program Civil Rights and a Civil Society

This nomination is also the recipient of a HIP (History in Progress) Award.

Texas

Name: Texas Archive of the Moving Image

Nomination: for the project A Journey to the Moon through Texas

Name: Nelda C. and H.J. Lutzer Stark Foundation

Nomination: for the exhibit A Death in the Family

Name: Bullock Texas State History Museum

Nomination: for the Texas Story Project

Name: Bullock Texas State History Museum

Nomination: for the exhibit Life and Death on the Border 1910-1920



Donor Report

January 1 - December 31, 2016

Gifts to the Annual Fund

\$1,000+

John Herbst
Dennis A. O'Toole
Route 66 Mother Road
Museum

\$500 to \$999

Georgianna Contiguglia
Creigh Family Foundation
John Dichtl
D. Stephen Elliott
John Fleming

F. Sheffield Hale
Katherine D. Kane
Nicola J. Longford
Carl R. Nold
Sarah Pharaon

Robert R. McCormick
Museum
Russell Reed Whitaker

\$100 to \$499

William Adair
Pamela Jean Bennett
The Boston Foundation
Ellsworth H. Brown
Norman O. Burns
Richard Cameron
Timothy Joseph Chester
David A. Donath
John W. Durel
Bert T. Edwards
Dennis A. Fiori
Suzanne Fischer
Kimberly A. Fortney
Barbara Franco
Janet Gallimore
Linnea Marie Grim
Kristen Gwinn-Becker
John C. Holtzapple
Barbara J. Howe
Industry Manufacturers
Council
Sarah Jencks
Mary F. Jenkins
Trevor Jones
Albert T. Klyberg
John Kneebone
Nancy D. Kolb
Rick Lagattuta
Burt Logan
Allyn A. Lord
Jeff Mann
Erin Carlson Mast
Tonya Matthews

Anne McCudden
Thomas Bernard McGowan
Kyle L. McKoy
Randall Miller
Susan Miner
Mary Eggert Montgomery
H. Nicholas Muller
Steve Murray
Susan R. Near
David L. Nicandri
Kim Olsen-Clark
Gale E. Peterson
Alexandra Rasic
Debra A. Reid
Brenda J. Reigle
Barnes Riznik
Ruby Rogers
Diane Rogness
Melanie Roth
Donna Sack
William Sanders
Hope Shannon
Martha Morris Shannon
Benjamin F. Speller
Elizabeth P. Stewart
Will Ticknor
Bill Trampusch
Louis Tucker
Kenneth C. Turino
Max A. van Balgooy
James M. Vaughan
Larry J. Yerdon

Up to \$99

Melanie A. Adams
David Appel
Thomas Armour
Chuck Arning
Annette Atkins
George W. Bain
Deborah Barker
Jackie Barton
Erik R. Bauer
Teresa Beamsley
Bob Beatty
Perky Beisel
Terri Blanchette
Scott Bocock
Brooklin Keeping Society
Andrew Steven Campbell
Margo Ann Carlock
Cinnamon Catlin-Legutko
Jenie F. Child
Harold A. Closter
Cherie Cook
Jason Crabill
Margaret Culbertson
Katie Dallos
Terry L. Davis
Alannah DeBusk
Richard Dexter
Charlotte Dison
Richard H. Engeman
Fidelity Charitable
Susan Finkel
Barbara George
Richard Gilbane
Allan B. Goodrich
Gilbert V. Gott
Conny Graft

Gridley Museum
Julie C. Harris
Bethany Hawkins
Lenora M. Henson
Mary E. Herbert
Lind Higgins
Elbert Hilliard
Historic Mesquite, Inc.
Lynne Ireland
Stephen C. Iverson
Hannah E. Johnson
Janice Klein
Alice Knierim
Thomas Krasean
Jennifer S. Landry
Lansdale Historical Society
Laura De LaRosa
Jeffrey Larrabee
Antoinette J. Lee
Jeannine T. Levesque
Lombard Historical Society
Kue Lor
Lyons Historical Society
Esther Mackintosh
Andrea Malcomb
David J. Maurer
Katherine F McSpadden
Denise D. Meringolo
Middlebury Historical
Society
Patricia L. Miller
Daniel Morast
James David Neville
Lisa A. Nichols
Nichols House Museum
Claudia Ocello

A. Charlene Orr
Donald Johnstone Peck
Jeannie Regan-Dinius
Robert W. Richmond
Julia Rose
Rowayton Historical
Society
Gary L. Sandling
Sean Sawyer
Adam Scher
Edward Smits
Kate S. Sproul
Marianne D. Squyres
Laura Hartz Stanton
Scott Muir Stroh
Sarah Sutton
Stacey A. Swigart
Ruth Thomasian
Cheryl Ann Thornhill
Bryant F. Tolles
Deborah Trupin
Kurt Updegraff
Stephanie N. Upton
Greg van Praag
George L. Vogt
Karen Wade
Scott Wands
Warren Rifles Confederate
Memorial Museum, Inc.
Weatherhead Experience
Design
Wolf Creek Heritage
Museum
Megan Wood
Samuel R. Young
Penny A. Zaleta

Gifts to the 75 for 75 Campaign

\$500+

Bill Adair
White House Historical
Association

\$100 to \$499

Dina Bailey
Bob Beatty
Conner Prairie Museum
John Dichtl
Janet Gallimore
Brent D. Glass
Linnea Marie Grim
Jane Lindsey

Nicola Longford
Erin Carlson Mast
Lorraine McConaghy
Sarah Blannett Pharaon
Julia Rose
Sagamore Institute of the
Adirondacks
Ken C. Turino

Up to \$99

Judy Anderson
Tracy L. Baetz
George W. Bain
Chevy Chase Historical
Society
Randel Mott Cobb
Alexandra Coon
Paula A. Degen

John W. Durel
Leigh A. Grinstead
Massillon Museum
The Merwin Foundation
Brenda Milkofsky
Mary E. Montgomery
Oshkosh Public Museum
Keith Forrest Post

Phil Scarpino
Nora Pat Small
Ruth Thomasian
Joshua Torrance
Deborah L. Trupin
Louis L. Tucker
Tobi M. Voigt
Bruce Whitmarsh

Gifts to the Endowment

Up to \$99

Bob Beatty
Maria Quinlan Leiby

\$100 to \$499

George L. Vogt

\$500+

Kathleen & James Mullins

SHA Scholarship Gifts

\$1,000+

Burt Logan

\$100 to \$499

Jackie Barton
Marisa Berman Hollywood
Norman Burns
Tricia Canaday
Jessica Dorman
Timothy J. Grove
Alan D. Gutches
Tim Hoogland
Mark Howell
Louise T. Jones
Trevor Jones

Katherine D. Kane
Stacia L. Kuceyeski
Jennifer L. Lund
Kyle L. McKoy
Steve Murray
Trina Nelson Thomas
Alexandra Rasic
Robert Scott Stephenson
Andrew H. Talkov
Janet & Jim Vaughan
Lawrence Yerdon

\$500 to \$999

Leo J. Goodsell

Up to \$99

Laura Caldwell Anderson
Rachel Baum
Bob Beatty
Marc Blackburn
Jillian Carney
Cinnamon Catlin-Legutko
Jason Crabill
Jason Aaron Crabill
Christy M. Crisp
Megan Del Debbio
John Dichtl

Jessica Ellison
Linnea Marie Grim
Shakia Gullette
Paul Hart
Robert L. Hart
Barbara Howe
Jeff Kollath
J.J. Lamb
Jennifer S. Landry
Paige Lilly
Rebecca Martin

Laura Minzes
Michelle N. Moon
Jennifer Niemi
Melissa Prycer
Jeannette Rooney
Elizabeth Scott Shatto
Mark Sundlov
Natalie Troiani
Christie Weininger

Donor Report

SHA Partners

\$1,000 to \$4,999

Billings Farm and Museum
Minnesota Historical Society
Nantucket Historical
Association

\$5,000 +

National Trust for
Historic Preservation

Small Museum Scholarship Gifts

\$500 to \$999

Crystalizations Systems Inc.
Janice Klein
Carl R. Nold

\$100 to \$499

John Dichtl
Stacy Klingler
Maggie Marconi
Trina Nelson Thomas
Melissa Prycer

Up to \$99

Jacqui Sue Ainlay-Conley
M. Susan Barger
Bob Beatty
Laura A. Casey
Chandler Historical Society
Brian Crockett
Kristen Overbeck Laise
Jennifer S. Landry
Katherine F. McSpadden
Nate Meyers
Middlebury Historical Society

Patricia L. Miller
Claudia Ocello
Oklahoma Museums
Association
Debra A. Reid
Sarah Sutton
Bruce Teeple
Beverly C. Tyler
Sharron G. Uhler
Stephanie N. Upton
Andrew J. Verhoff
Tobi M. Voigt

Donations Made in Honor of:

Hank Morris
Karen Graham Wade

Donations Made in Memory of:

Glenda Jackson

Donations Made to the Michael Kammen Fund

\$5,000+

Carol Kammen

We strive for accuracy in reporting contributions and ask
you to let us know if we are in error. (info@aslh.org)

AASLH Council



Katherine Kane, Chair
(2016-2018)*
Harriet Beecher Stowe Center



John Fleming, Vice Chair
(2016-2018)*
National Museum of African
American Music



Julie Rose, Immediate
Past Chair
(2016-2018)*
West Baton Rouge Museum



Linnea Grim, Secretary
(2016-2018)*
Thomas Jefferson's Monticello



Norman Burns, II, Treasurer
(2016-2018)*
Conner Prairie



Bill Adair
(Class of 2018)
Pew Center for Arts &
Heritage



Melanie Adams
(Class of 2020)
Minnesota Historical Society



Dina Bailey
(Class of 2018)
Mountain Top Vision, LLC



Marian Carpenter
(Class of 2019)
State of Delaware Historical
and Cultural Affairs



Kim Fortney
(Class of 2020)
National History Day



Janet Gallimore
(Class of 2017)
Idaho State Historical Society



Leigh A. Grinstead
(Class of 2018)
LYRISIS

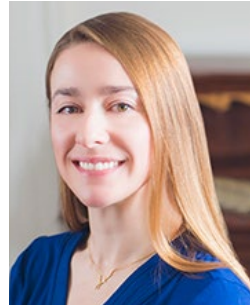
AASLH Council



Jane Lindsey
(Class of 2017)
Juneau-Douglas
City Museum



Nicola Longford
(Class of 2018)
Sixth Floor Museum at
Dealey Plaza



Erin Carlson Mast
(Class of 2019)*
President Lincoln's Cottage



Kyle McKoy
(Class of 2020)
Indiana Historical Society



Sarah Pharaon
(Class of 2019)
International Coalition of
Sites of Conscience



Will Ticknor
(Class of 2019)
New Mexico Department of
Cultural Affairs



Ken Turino
(Class of 2017)
Historic New England



Tobi Voigt
(Class of 2017)
Detroit Historical Society



Scott Wands
(Class of 2020)
Connecticut Humanities
Council

*Member of Executive Committee

AASLH Staff



John Dichtl
President and CEO



Bethany Hawkins
Chief of Operations



Bob Beatty
Chief of Engagement



Cherie Cook
Senior Program Manager



Terry Jackson
Membership and Database
Coordinator



Sylvia McGhee
Finance Director



Amber Mitchell
Education and Service
Coordinator



Hannah Hethmon
Membership Marketing
Coordinator



Aja Bain
Program Coordinator

Highlights from AASLH's 2016 Workshops



Collections Camp Workshop
in Denver, CO



Project Management for History
Professionals Workshop, Columbus, OH



Connecting Your Collections to
Teachers and Students in Nashville, TN



Reinventing the Historic House
Museum Workshop, St. Louis, MO

Contact Us

2021 21st Ave S., Suite 320
Nashville, TN 37212

615-320-3203

www.aaslh.org

membership@aaslh.org

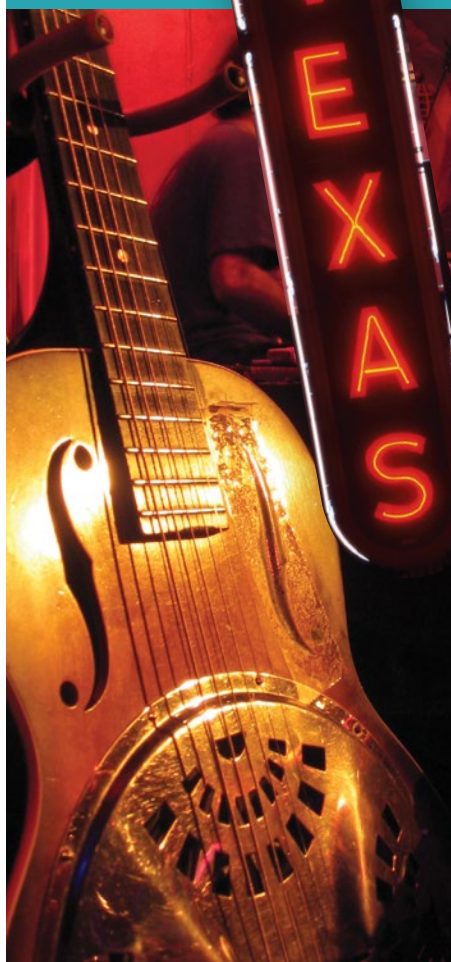
Find us on:



AASLH 2017 ANNUAL MEETING



I Am History



SEPTEMBER 6-9
AUSTIN, TX

go.aaslh.org/2017