Looking at the past twelve months, I am filled with gratitude. So many committee volunteers, donors, sponsors, and members give their participation, support, ideas, and connections to each other and the rest of the field, and this makes AASLH prosper. It was another challenging year, thanks to COVID-19, but with your help AASLH managed to grow.

Our 82nd Annual Meeting, held in-person in Little Rock, was a success, and it was followed by an Online Conference a few weeks later which drew more than 1,100 people. As you can imagine, a great amount of staff and committee time was devoted to having two conferences; yet with our dedicated volunteers and staff, active Council, and collaborative partner associations, AASLH accomplished a lot of other things in 2021.

Over the past year our 250th plans grew, culminating in *Making History at 250: The Field Guide for the Semiquincentennial*. A strong theme of inclusion and diversity, reflected in AASLH’s past few years of annual conferences, took center stage in this *Field Guide*. Professional development programs increased with the addition of another staff member in that department and integration of the AASLH STEPS program into all our webinars and courses. Toward the end of 2021, three major programs entered final phases. First, our census of all history organizations in the country finished; a final report will appear in early 2022. Second, we conducted and are still analyzing an AASLH Membership Survey. Third, the research phases of our “Framing History with the American Public” project concluded. In the coming year we will focus on sharing results of that study, which answers the question of “How do we talk most effectively with the public about the importance of history and the work that history organizations do?” This “Reframing History” toolkit will help all history organizations to promote inclusive and evidence-based history as part of the 250th. And it will help us in pushing back against “divisive concepts” legislation that many states have passed, or are considering, to restrict teaching about the history of racism and slavery.

The nation has days and years of reckoning ahead of it, and all of us will have a role to play as history practitioners. As the 250th approaches, we have a tremendous opportunity to promote critical engagement with history and to rejuvenate and strengthen the field for generations to come.

John R. Dichtl
President & CEO, AASLH
From the Council Chair

When I stumbled into my first full-time museum job in 1987 right after grad school, I wasn’t necessarily looking for a career in public history, though sometimes a career path can find you with the help of others. In my mid-twenties with zero experience running a museum but the good sense to call others that did, I reached out to two colleagues in my home state of Tennessee who were well established leaders at the state’s leading historic site and historical society. After listening to the panic in the voice of this young neophyte in public history, my mature colleagues calmly begin laying out further mentoring, training, and professional development opportunities with state and regional museum organizations, and most importantly, nationally with the American Association for State and Local History. They explained how AASLH and similar professional organizations were a place where a young professional like me could meet and learn from others the best practices needed to become a confident leader. To that end, they invited me to attend an AASLH conference.

I still remember attending my first AASLH conference thirty plus years ago and being introduced around by these colleagues to others that they knew would be helpful to further my learning as a public historian and for my maturation as a museum professional. As an academic historian trained in social history now looking to make a career in public history, I was eager to make history inclusive and useful so the public could learn about its relevance by fostering critical thinking and exploration about the human experience. In AASLH, I found a home that could help me nurture and explore these approaches, which seemed so different and radical at the time but that I now realize are the Rosetta Stone for our infinite understanding of history’s gift.

As I stood at the podium in Little Rock looking out over the attendees, I realized how I’ve come full circle. I’m no longer the young Turk eager for radical change and brash enough to try anything without knowing why, I’m now a seasoned museum professional who is old enough to know better but young enough to still try. No matter where you are in your professional journey, AASLH is the place to explore how to change the way the world views and uses history.

Norman O. Burns, II
Chair, AASLH Council
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Orem, UT

Michelle Banks
Class of 2024
African American Firefighter Museum
Los Angeles, CA

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Class of 2025
National Museum of the U.S. Air Force
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Gina Vergara-Bautista
Class of 2024
Hawaii State Archives
Honolulu, HI

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Bethany Hawkins
Chief of Operations

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Director, Public History Research Lab
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Lisa E. Worley

Committees, Task Forces, and Affinity Communities
CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Many Thanks…
To all of our volunteer committee members for their service in 2021!

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National History Day Advisory Board Representative
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Wael Gad
Richard Goulston
Marya Lee
Patrick Rocchio

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Many Thanks…
To all of our volunteer committee members for their service in 2021!
Starting in 2021, AASLH began offering a new dual conference format: the Annual Meeting which takes place in person and the Online Conference held after the in person meeting. The AASLH Annual Meeting is known for a participatory format, takeaways galore, hallway conversations, unmatched evening events, new life-long friendships, intensive workshops, and the inspiration that comes from being around other history-doers. But, after the success of our 2020 Online Conference, we wanted to continue to offer a virtual event that inspires and informs attendees. The online meeting focuses on sessions that allow speakers to share their stories, strategies, and expertise while interacting with participants through the chat function and breakout rooms. The virtual format makes this conference available to all AASLH members without the cost of travel.

The AASLH Program Chair Michelle Moon, the 2021 Program and Host Committees, AASLH staff, and our partner the Arkansas Museums Association worked hard to turn the Annual Meeting in Little Rock September 22-25 into a more personal, participatory conference in 2021. Despite the issues with COVID, 311 attendees met in Little Rock for the first time in 18 months. Every attendee had the opportunity to be a true participant in a rich offering of workshops, tours, in-depth discussions, hands-on experiences, and social events. Days spent onsite with colleagues included inspirational calls to action from our keynote speakers Hasan Kwame Jeffries and Rhonda Y. Williams. Recordings of their keynote addresses are available in the AASLH Resource Center for free. Attendees also visited history institutions and sites in the Little Rock area and participated in workshops and tours that maximized the history, culture, and places of the host city. Some of the highlights of our time in Arkansas were the evening events at the Old Statehouse Museum, Clinton Presidential Center, and Historic Arkansas.

The 2021 Online Conference, also chosen by the Program Committee and spearheaded by Michelle Moon, drew over 1,100 attendees for the October 12-15 virtual gathering. The general sessions focused on leadership in the field: Trauma and Public History; Museums, Civic Learning, and Democracy; and Land, Space, and Place. Concurrent sessions explored the topics of history and justice and how they intersect. The conference wrapped up with a closing plenary discussion led by Melanie A. Adams from the Smithsonian’s Anacostia Community Museum.

“We have an ethical obligation as educators and keepers of the past to get it right.”  
— Dr. Hasan Kwame Jeffries

Recordings from the 2021 Online Conference are available in the Resource Center.
Promoting inclusive approaches to history and inclusive practices in the history community was again a major focus of programming in 2021. The AASLH Annual Meeting and the Online Conference took as their theme, *Doing History/Doing Justice*. As our Program Chair Michelle Moon said about Little Rock, the conference city, it “is rich in places that generate profound reflections on right and wrong.” Conference sessions and tours, as well as both keynote addresses by Dr. Hasan Kwame Jeffries and Dr. Rhonda Y. Williams pushed attendees to expand their spheres of inclusion and to courageously use history work to change the inequities in their institutions and communities.

Council used 2021 to move on discussions it and the Diversity & Inclusion Committee have been having over the past few years about how AASLH operates, how Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, & Inclusion (DEAI) issues are prioritized, and how the organization can help advance the field’s practices. In March, Council adopted “The 13 Behaviors of a High Trust Leader” (FranklinCovey) as guidelines for all future Council meetings. These behaviors are helping to encourage the full participation of all members and to foster dialogue about difficult topics. AASLH staff is also using these “high trust” guidelines, and the practices are being shared with AASLH committees. In September, Council adopted a DEAI Framework created by the committee and the AASLH staff. The framework is specific to AASLH’s internal workings and covers how Council, committees, and staff operate, and how AASLH programs will be used to advance DEAI issues.

Over the summer, the Diversity & Inclusion Committee, with the help of AASLH staff, conducted a survey of all AASLH committees, task forces, and affinity committees, as well as of Council and staff, to find out how diverse these groups are and what their members think of the culture of inclusion within their group and within AASLH. The committee will be conferring with the committees, staff, and Council on the results of this study in 2022.

Meanwhile, work continued on a very important joint study by AASLH and the National Council on Public History (NCPH). Together, the organizations issued a Gender Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Survey in 2019. More than 400 lengthy, detailed, and deeply moving survey responses resulted. NCPH and AASLH hired a research consulting firm to conduct a thorough analysis of the data, and the firm will be submitting a report in early 2022. We expect the findings from this study to generate critical discussion on a variety of topics and result in recommendations for both associations to act upon.

### 2021 WEBINARS

This past year, AASLH hosted several webinars addressing diversity and inclusion in the field, focusing primarily on best practices in community engagement. In our “*Being a Good Neighbor: Authentic and Empathetic Community Engagement*” webinar, participants had the opportunity to gauge and critique the community engagement work being done at other institutions in hopes of fostering new and strengthening old community relationships. “*Juneteenth: Celebrating Freedom at Historic Sites in the Age of Black Lives Matter*” discussed how organizations can join the celebration in ways that are appropriate, respectful, and elevating to the communities they are trying to reach all year round. “*Challenging Histories: Engaging with Community through Exhibitions*” focused on how to create a space of shared authority for community groups within exhibition content and interpretation. We also hosted webinars that highlighted centering equity and education at historic sites and building relationships with historically marginalized communities to create permanent and easily accessible oral history collections.
250th Anniversary

In July 2021, AASLH published *Making History at 250: The Field Guide for the Semiquincentennial*, the culmination of several years of organizing work. AASLH has undertaken to prepare the history community for the U.S. Semiquincentennial in 2026. Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and developed in collaboration with more than two dozen scholars, public historians, and museum professionals across the country, the Field Guide provides historical themes and big ideas to give cohesiveness to the upcoming commemoration. The themes, such as “Power of Place,” “Unfinished Revolutions,” and “Doing History” offer points of entry for institutions of all types, sizes, and in all regions of the country—even those far from the Atlantic coast who feel little connection to the events of the Revolutionary War. Following a digital launch in July, AASLH published print versions of the guide, mailing more than 8,000 copies to members of AASLH and others around the country. The guide is now being used to inform planning at museums, historical societies, humanities councils, and state Semiquincentennial commissions around the country.

In addition to the Field Guide, AASLH continued its national leadership of 250th anniversary planning in 2021. AASLH convened a National Coordinating Committee, which brings together leaders of history organizations, museums, federal agencies, and national associations to facilitate coordination and communication about developing 250th anniversary programming. AASLH also continues to support advocacy work related to the Semiquincentennial, at the American Alliance of Museums’ “Museums Advocacy Day,” and through our involvement in the National Coalition for History.

Through all of these efforts, AASLH has championed inclusive, relevant history that shares the full diversity and complexity of American history, helping the history community use the 250th to bring about transformational change.

Reframing History

Early in 2022, AASLH will publish the final report and recommendations from its “Reframing History” project, a multi-year effort to research how Americans think about what history is and why it’s valuable to society, and to develop new strategies to help the history community more effectively communicate with public audiences. Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and carried out in partnership with the FrameWorks Institute, National Council on Public History, and Organization of American Historians, “Reframing History” has already reported on major challenges facing history professionals, among them a mindset among much of the public that history is about “just the facts.” In 2021, our research team used deep, qualitative interviews and a nationally-representative survey experiment to test a range of ways to frame discussions about what history is, how we do it, and why it matters. The project recommendations will provide empirically proven approaches to build support for evidence-based, inclusive history. Those recommendations will be coupled with a toolkit, podcast, webinars, workshops, and an online course to train history professionals and volunteers working in a variety of contexts.

National Visitation Report

In the fall, AASLH’s Public History Research Lab published the third annual *National Visitation Report*, a yearly assessment of in-person attendance trends at the nation’s history organizations. Analyzing how 2020 visitation compared to the year prior, this year’s report helped organizations around the country assess how their visitation figures during the pandemic compared to their peer institutions. The report found that at institutions of all types, sizes, and in all regions of the country, visitation declined nearly 70 percent in 2020. Investigating the impact of COVID-19, the report found that, on average, institutions were closed entirely for 23 weeks, and only partially reopened for an additional 16—about 9 full months operating at less than full capacity. The small size of most institutions, coupled with robust federal assistance, meant that about 65 percent of history organizations avoided layoffs and furloughs. AASLH will analyze 2021 visitation trends to see how institutions bounced back through its next national survey, forthcoming in spring 2022.
In May, our national awards committee met virtually to review the 2021 Leadership in History Awards nominations and recognize outstanding projects from around the country. This year, the committee conferred forty awards to exhibits, public programs, and individuals that are doing impressive history work at institutions of every size and type. We were pleased to present many of the awards in person on September 24 at our Annual Meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The winner of the 2021 Albert B. Corey Award, recognizing exceptional all-volunteer institutions, is the Cache Celebration of Women’s Suffrage Committee of Utah. History in Progress (HIP) Award winners represent the most creative and inspiring projects each year, and 2021 saw two winners emerge: the Greensboro History Museum (Greensboro, NC) for the exhibit *Pieces of Now* and the Orange County Regional History Center (Orlando, FL) for the exhibit *Yesterday, This Was Home: The Ocoee Massacre of 1920*.

This year’s Publication Award winners draw from fascinating research on diverse topics. In the category of Small Press, the winner is *Loud, Naked, & in Three Colors: The Liberty Boys and the History of Tattooing in Boston* by Derin Bray and Margaret Hodges (Rake House, 2020), with honorable mention going to *Afro-Creole Poetry in French from Louisiana’s Radical Civil War-Era Newspapers: A Bilingual Edition* by Clint Bruce (editor and translator), (Historic New Orleans Collection, 2020). In the Large Press category, the winner is *Williams’ Gang: A Notorious Slave Trader and His Cargo of Black Convicts* by Jeff Forret (Cambridge University Press, 2020), with honorable mention going to *A Simple Justice: Kentucky Women Fight for the Vote* by Melanie Beals Goan (The University Press of Kentucky, 2020).

Visit aaslh.org/programs/leadership-in-history-awards to see the full list of this year’s award winners.
In the summer of 2021, the Iowa Museum Association launched STEPS-IMA through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. STEPS-IMA is an online program that consists of synchronous and asynchronous modules to provide six Iowa institutions the opportunity to “grow towards best practices” in the field. The institutions complete the program as a cohort using the STEPS curriculum. The first STEPS-IMA cohort will begin in January of 2022.

For more information on STEPS-IMA, visit imaonlinelearning.com/steps-ima.
The History Leadership Institute (HLI) held its first all-virtual seminar in June 2021. Seminar Associates attended various online workshops over four weeks to learn how to become better leaders in their organizations. Facilitators such as Brandie Macdonald, Cinnamon Catlin-Legutko, and Elee Wood provided invaluable insight into the benefits and challenges of serving in leadership roles in various levels of an organization. Julie Johnson asked associates to evaluate their individual leadership skills and how they directly impact their professional growth. Using Zoom breakout rooms and the AASLH Community Center, participants had the opportunity to network and continue their workshop dialogues. In 2022, the HLI seminar will reconvene as a hybrid program, with two weeks online and two weeks in person. The seminar will take place at the Indiana Historical Society during the summer of 2022.

In addition to the June seminar, AASLH launched HLI online courses under professional development. The course “HLI Online: Strengthening Your Organization’s Impact” provided leadership building content to midcareer professionals across the country. We are excited to continue hosting the course in 2022.

At the end of 2021, HLI transitioned to its new home within the AASLH Professional Development Department. Senior Manager of Professional Development Dr. Ashley Bouknight-Claybrooks will serve as HLI Coordinator. By merging the History Leadership Institute with Professional Development, AASLH can fully maximize the Institute’s offerings. HLI now has more AASLH staff support as well as access to professional development course management software. The Professional Development team will also create more spaces for networking opportunities in the AASLH Community Center.

We are excited about the evolution of HLI and our ability to assist more public history professionals to expand their leadership skill set.

We were proud to add five new titles to our publishing program with Rowman & Littlefield in 2021, along with commissioning new manuscripts and finalizing edits for upcoming 2022 books. AASLH books aim to offer accessible resources, guidance, and case studies on important issues and techniques in our field, and to inspire history organizations of all sizes and types to pursue innovative and inclusive work. New titles included *Archives 101* by Lois Hamill; *Exploring the American Civil War through 50 Historic Treasures* by Julie Holcomb; *Exploring American Girlhood through 50 Historic Treasures* by Ashley E. Remer and Tiffany R. Isselhardt; *Interpreting the Legacy of Women’s Suffrage at Museums and Historic Sites* by Page Harrington; and *Interpreting Slavery at Museums and Historic Sites* by Kristin L. Gallas. Holcomb’s work was reviewed in *Booklist*, the book review journal of the American Library Association. Gallas’s recorded book talk webinar and Harrington’s 2021 Online Conference session on her book are both available for download in our Resource Center. Browse our full catalogue at rowman.com/Action/Imprint/R15.
2021 BY THE NUMBERS
AN AASLH INFOGRAPHIC

Membership

Academic Programs: 34
Individual: 1,369
Institutional: 3,253
Future Members: 1

(2 more office babies due in early 2022)

Professional Development

1,732 Unique Attendees

21 Webinars
32 Online Courses

Total Participants: 1,158
New Participants: 61

Meetings & Scholarships

Annual Meeting Attendees: 311

Scholarships Given to Annual Meeting Attendees

Small Museums Scholarships: 2
Douglas Evelyn Scholarship for Diversity: 9

Online Conference Attendees: 1,148

TOP Blog Posts

#1 2021 Leadership in History Award Winners
#2 10 Unique Ways Museums Can Connect with Their Community
#3 Introducing the AASLH Public History Research Lab

Awards

40 Awards Presented

Small Museum PRO!
AASLH will again hold dual conferences in 2022 which will examine the theme *Right Here, Right Now: The Power of Place*. In Buffalo and online, we have an opportunity to reflect on the spaces we occupy and the stories they tell. As holders of history, we have a responsibility to ensure that full stories are being shared with our audiences and that those histories represent the diversity and complicated narratives of the spaces we occupy now, highlight and investigate the spaces of the past, and set standards for interpreting the concept of place for future generations to come. The conference theme is drawn from “Power of Place,” one of the five themes that AASLH has identified for the 250th anniversary of the United States and laid out in its *Making History at 250: The Field Guide for the Semiquincentennial*.

Our conference theme, *Right Here, Right Now: The Power of Place*, suggests many questions. What place is important to you? To your community? Do you see these stories reflected in your museums, historic sites, and the local cultural sector? Who decides what places are saved or interpreted and what ends up being worth saving? Answers to these questions trace back to who is at the table when discussing memorializing an event in history or a place in time, who holds authority in decision-making processes, and structures of power that often go unseen or unaddressed.

Our Annual Meeting host city, Buffalo, is a perfect location for exploring the importance of place. Buffalo was at one point the “Gateway to the West.” But we also need to consider the impact on Indigenous communities facing a continuing societal upheaval that began centuries before and intensified during the Revolution. As the bicentennial of the Erie Canal approaches in 2025, we must consider the environmental, economic, and sociological impact it had on the development of a nation still in its adolescence. Consider the mighty Niagara Falls. What do we see? An environmental marvel? A resource to be exploited? A diverse community living amidst one of the most prominent tourist attractions in the world? How much of our perspective is determined by who tells the history of these places?

Viewing our conversations for the 2022 Annual Meeting and Online Conference through the lens of power of place allows us to consider the spaces and places we’ve collectively built, while acknowledging those we’ve had a hand in reimagining over time. We ask you to embrace this year’s theme, *Right Here, Right Now* as an invitation to pause and meditate on what placemaking really means to you and to the communities you serve, and ultimately to interrogate how you may be a tool in this development process. Let’s gather in Buffalo and/or online and reexamine ideas about our natural and built environments and to reorient when and where we find our country’s history.

Registration information will be available in early June.
COMMUNITY AND CONNECTION

Census

Over the past year, AASLH’s Public History Research Lab has worked with external researchers and leaders of state history and museum organizations across the country to conduct a thorough census of the nation’s history organizations. By gathering and analyzing existing lists of history institutions from federal agencies, national nonprofits, and state historical and museum organizations, AASLH has for the first time in decades developed a reliable, high-quality list of every history organization in the United States. Preliminary analysis has already revealed several new insights. We can now show that there are far more history organizations in the U.S. than previously believed, small organizations make up an enormous proportion of those organizations, and that history institutions serve communities no other cultural or educational entities can reach. These findings will help serve outreach, resource development, and advocacy efforts in the years to come. A full report of the project’s findings will be published in May 2022.

Community Center Launch

Some of you may remember when we first launched an online discussion forum in the spring of 2020. After launching, we quickly discovered that the forums were not as user-friendly as we had hoped. So in March of this year, with the help of our Affinity Committees, we inaugurated a better community experience: the AASLH Community Center. In the Community Center, members and non-members can ask questions, engage in discussion, and share resources with fellow history practitioners across the field for free.

We are very excited about this new forum and all the possibilities it offers Affinity Communities, AASLH members, and the history field at large to connect to each other and to critical issues in the history community. In 2020, we learned just how meaningful and powerful connection can be, and we are happy to have a new forum space where connections can be made within our history community.

Have a question, solution, or a resource to share with your colleagues? There is a community group for just about everyone, including Small Museums, Educators and Interpreters, Emerging History Professionals, and more. We invite you to connect with us at community.aaslh.org!

Public History Research Lab

In 2021, AASLH established the Public History Research Lab, a central hub for the several research projects the organization carries out in service to the field. By conducting research about public history practice and the role of history in American life, AASLH’s Research Lab strives to equip history professionals, museum leaders, scholars, advocates, and others with data and insights they can use to fulfill their missions and more effectively champion the cause of history. The Research Lab partners with external researchers and practitioners at institutions large and small to carry out original research like the National Visitation Report, “Reframing History,” and the National Census of History Organizations. We also produce “Research Briefs,” short summaries of emerging research to help practitioners more easily connect to new work from across and beyond the public history field. This growing body of work serves history practitioners, advocates, and organizations in a wide range of public history contexts, providing new data and insights to advance the field.
**DONOR REPORT**

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- Sandra Clark
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- Janet Vaughan
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- Cranbury Historical & Preservation Society
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- Charlotte A. Dison
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- Enterprise Museum
- Priscilla Esser
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- Carol Fitzsimmons
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- Jeff Harris
- John Harris
- Jane Hasek
- Elizabeth Hedler
- Hannah Hethmon
- Nancy Anne Hill
- Susan Elizabeth Hill
- Historic Harrisville
- Daniel D. Holt
- Dona W. Horowitz-Behrend
- Stanton H. Hudson Jr.
- Sarah A. Johnson
- Paul Kahan
Thank You!

Endowment

$1,000 and Up
Jean M. Svadlenak

$500 to $999
Richard W. Dexter
Thomas Krasean

$100 to $499
Richard Adam
Cherie A. Cook
James B. Gardner
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Dean Krimmel
Suzanne Savery
Deborah L. Trupin
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Rebecca Martin
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Small Museums Scholarship Fund

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Bethany Hawkins

Jennifer Kilmer
Patricia L. Miller
Alexandra Rasic
Mackenzie Tansey

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John E. Fleming
Sarah Zenaida Gould
Jennifer Kilmer
Stacy Lynn Klingler
Steve Murray
Jennifer Ortiz
Alexandra Rasic

Donations in Honor of or In Memory of

David Crosson
John R. Dichtl
John & Anita Durel
E. Duane Elbert
Exchange Place
Jeff Harris
Mary Ellen Hayward & John McGrain
Jabari & Keiantai
Larry Kocher
Lt. Col Troy Marshall
Patricia Miller
Scott Sackett
Somerville Museum
Jim Vaughan

AASLH Legacy Society

Sylvia Alderson*
Bob & Ms. Candy Beatty
Melissa Bingmann
Robert M. & Claudia H. Brown
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Katherine Kane
Dennis A. O’Toole
Ruby Rogers
David J. Russo
Will Ticknor
Jim* and Janet Vaughan
George L. Vogt
Anonymous
*Deceased
## Current Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$444,550</td>
<td>$356,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted cash</td>
<td>$229,832</td>
<td>$48,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>$107,939</td>
<td>$48,121</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant receivable</td>
<td>$11,075</td>
<td>$6,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>$38,762</td>
<td>$84,975</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$582,158</strong></td>
<td><strong>$543,834</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment</td>
<td>$5,597</td>
<td>$8,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments, substantially restricted</td>
<td>$2,315,708</td>
<td>$1,865,209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,183,463</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,417,160</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Liabilities and Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities and Net Assets</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$116,631</td>
<td>$54,112</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current portion of note payable*</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$45,854</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unearned membership dues</td>
<td>$328,419</td>
<td>$329,179</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unearned revenue</td>
<td>$349,493</td>
<td>$178,483</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total current liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$794,543</strong></td>
<td><strong>$607,628</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Note payable, net of current portion</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$74,146</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$794,543</strong></td>
<td><strong>$681,774</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$108,146</td>
<td>($147,122)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without donor restrictions</td>
<td>$2,280,794</td>
<td>$1,882,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With donor restrictions</td>
<td>$2,388,920</td>
<td>$1,735,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,388,920</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,735,386</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities and net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,183,463</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,417,160</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Statement of Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>With donor restrictions</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenues, gains, and other support</strong></td>
<td>$1,686,077</td>
<td>$398,256</td>
<td>$2,084,333</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>$837,266</td>
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<td>$837,266</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supporting services</td>
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<td>$593,533</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total operating expenses</strong></td>
<td>$1,430,799</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,430,799</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in net assets from operations</td>
<td>$255,278</td>
<td>$398,256</td>
<td>$653,534</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net assets, beginning of year</td>
<td>($147,122)</td>
<td>$1,882,508</td>
<td>$1,735,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, year-end</td>
<td>$108,156</td>
<td>$2,280,764</td>
<td>$2,388,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Statement of cash flow</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$270,044</td>
<td>($41,308)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year</td>
<td>$404,338</td>
<td></td>
<td>$445,646</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$674,386</td>
<td></td>
<td>$404,338</td>
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</tbody>
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*AASLH received a Paycheck Protection Program Loan in May 2020 for $120,000. The total amount was forgiven in November 2021 which is reflected in the FY2021 financial statements.
2021 was a challenging year for AASLH’s home state of Tennessee. Along with the 2nd Avenue bombing, portions of the state were hit with catastrophic floods and tornadoes. As AASLH is a member of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF), co-sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Smithsonian Institution, the staff quickly contacted history and cultural organizations in the hard-hit areas and connected them with HENTF resources. Thankfully, the damage to historical resources was minimal, but the people, homes, and businesses impacted continue to recover.

AASLH expresses its gratitude to thirteen members of the AASLH Council who, in January 2021, donated nearly $900 to the Nashville Metropolitan Historical Commission Foundation. These funds helped support structural assessments and façade repairs for the historic buildings of 2nd Avenue damaged in the December 25, 2020, bombing. From 1985 to 1993, AASLH’s offices were located at 172 2nd Avenue North, a nineteenth-century building that was completely destroyed in the bombing.

On December 2, AASLH staff visited the new home of the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville. We toured the new state-of-the-art facility, and appreciated our first all-staff gathering since March 2020. We hope to hold workshops and meetings in this great space in the future.