

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION *for* STATE *and* LOCAL HISTORY

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



All of the projects, programs, and collaborations that AASLH has been advancing in the past several years, and all that we are working on now, align with a vision for the nation's 250th anniversary. We want the Semiquincentennial to help American society move towards justice through an inclusive approach to history and for the upcoming years of commemoration to strengthen the history field by attracting interest and investment. The 250th will include everyone, and our history community will be reinvigorated so that we are ready for the next generation of public history practice. That means AASLH's work of connecting history organizations and practitioners together for shared learning and professional development is more important than ever.

Over the past year our membership association has taken major steps in this direction. We have started to put together a comprehensive fundraising campaign that will amplify these efforts. Last fall, AASLH received a generous commitment from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation for four years of financial support that is helping us lead planning efforts for the Semiquincentennial. In the first half of the year, we released our *Reframing History* report, and then over the summer our National Census of History Organizations—two multi-year research projects of the AASLH Public History Research Lab that give the field both a better idea of what challenges we face and the tools for effecting change. This research and growing support, in turn, has been poured back into AASLH programs of training and continuing education. In June 2022, our History Leadership Institute (HLI) seminar returned to a successful, in-person format at the Indiana Historical Society. And this fall we welcomed the Association of African American Museums into the HLI Partners group. Our professional development staff completed the acquisition and integration of the Arcus Leadership Program, and AASLH began offering these new self-directed entrepreneurial and leadership learning modules for emerging and mid-level professionals and those who are new to volunteering in history organizations.

All of these efforts are supported by a vibrant network of AASLH committees and partnerships. From the Leadership in History Awards Committee to the Annual Conference Program and Host committees, and from the Field Services Alliance to the Editorial Advisory Board, the core work of our association in recognizing excellence and sharing great ideas in sessions, webinars, magazine articles, and books continues. AASLH is able to provide the exciting projects and programs mentioned above, and participate in advocacy collaborations, and more because of the support of our members and everyone listed in this Annual Report. Thank you for your trust in AASLH.

The 250th will include everyone, and our history community will be reinvigorated...

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John R. Dichtl', written over a horizontal line.

John R. Dichtl
President & CEO, AASLH

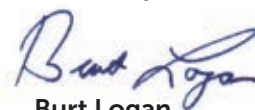
FROM THE COUNCIL CHAIR

AASLH is on the move—in Nashville and across the nation! John Dichtl's letter outlines the essential groundwork that is being laid by our talented and hardworking staff in advance of the nation's 250th birthday. Funds are being raised, audience research is taking place, structured and self-directed learning is being offered, and programming is becoming more robust, all focused on presenting an inclusive and accessible history for every American. On behalf of AASLH, I thank John and the staff for their leadership and the continued growth of AASLH this past year.

As fast as the pace is in Nashville, it is faster in the neighborhoods, communities, towns, and cities throughout the country, led by you, the members and volunteers of AASLH. This year's Leadership in History Awards displayed the creative, inspirational, and impactful work you are doing to make history relevant and meaningful for so many. Your service on committees and within affinity communities provides feedback and cross-pollination that ensures programs and outreach are grounded in reality and appropriately tailored for the audience. Your thought-provoking sessions at the Annual Conference challenged attendees to rethink long-held positions and to grow as individuals and as organizations. Your commitment to embrace and to

foster an inclusive and accessible public history is strengthening the social fabric of your respective environs, and ultimately the nation. On behalf of the Council and the staff, I thank each of you for the difference you are making on a daily basis.

However, we are not there yet. As the document that eventually emerged from the struggle for independence reminds us, we seek a "more perfect Union." The work of self-government will never be perfected. Likewise, the work of public history will never be finished. Preserving and sharing the myriad of stories of those who were forced to relinquish their land; the stories of those who never should have been enslaved and denied freedom; and the stories of those whose individual differences have caused them to be marginalized will always be ongoing. While the 250th is our immediate destination, our journey's end is the elusive "more perfect Union." May we as the ones entrusted to collect, safeguard, and share the memory of our particular communities never forget that memory without a conscience is merely a data file.



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Chair, AASLH Council

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Arcus

In 2022, Arcus became our sixth distinct professional development program, joining AASLH's webinars, online courses, onsite workshops, STEPS, and History Leadership Institute. Arcus is a self-paced program that helps those working in the history field to think as entrepreneurs and leaders. It has been specifically developed for emerging and mid-level professionals and those who are new to volunteering in history organizations. Arcus courses will help participants address the most critical topics in the history field today. AASLH acquired the Arcus Leadership Program from the SRI Foundation and Cultural History Partners in 2021, integrated and upgraded the program over several months, and opened new registrations in fall 2022.

Webinars

This past year, AASLH webinars addressed critical issues surrounding the preservation of historic sites and material culture. In the "Creating an Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Plan" webinar, 102 participants discussed the importance of having a disaster plan, the basics of creating one, and what to do with it once it is created. Conservators shared helpful ways to assess and manage risk, protect human life, and recover from natural and man-made disasters. "How to Manage a Digitization Project" addressed best practices in digitization projects. Over 85 participants learned about the basics of digitization management through understanding how to prepare your materials for digitization.

History Leadership Institute

As a hybrid program with two weeks online and two weeks in person, the History Leadership Institute (HLI) successfully reconvened in June of 2022. Seminar associates attended the in-person component at the Indiana Historical Society in Indianapolis, Indiana. Facilitators such as Anne Ackerson, Norman Burns, Randi Korn, and Erin Carlson Mast shared valuable information about how leadership skills pertain to audience growth, equitable partnerships, and strategic planning. Associates also participated in a site visit to



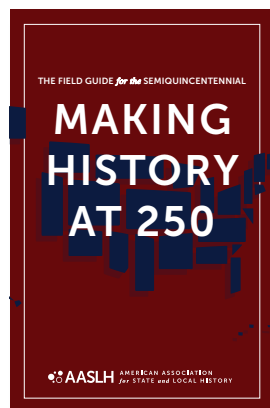
the Connor Prairie living history museum in Hamilton County, Indianapolis. Led by HLI Director Max van Balgooy, associates toured the site as a case study of public programming and interpretive planning at historic sites. The 2022 summer seminar was the last year that Max will serve as the HLI director. On behalf of the AASLH staff and the HLI Advisory Board, we would like to thank Max van Balgooy for his contributions to AASLH and HLI. AASLH, in partnership with the HLI Advisory Board, issued a call for applications for the HLI director position in the fall of 2022. A new director will be announced in early spring of 2023.

ADVOCACY AND RESEARCH

250th Planning

In 2022, AASLH continued its efforts to plan a Semiquincentennial that will help American society progress towards justice through an inclusive approach to history and strengthen the field by attracting interest and investment. We remained a convener of key groups, including our 250th Anniversary National Coordinating Committee and a new network of state commissions that are planning for 2026. We also continued widely distributing ***Making History at 250: The Field Guide for the Semiquincentennial*** and developing 250th-related partnerships with entities such as the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

AASLH was fortunate to receive a major gift from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation to expand our capacity to serve and prepare the history community for the Semiquincentennial. This investment allowed us to add a full-time staff member dedicated to 250th planning and start development of a suite of professional development programming for 2023. A webinar series for this programming will also be supported by a grant from the Classical American Homes Preservation Trust.



The 2023 programs will target two key audiences within the field: those who are not mobilizing for the Semiquincentennial because they are not convinced of its value or potential, and those who wish to mobilize but do not know where to start. With these needs in mind, we will host a virtual summit in April that explores why commemoration and, in particular, the Semiquincentennial matters. In the following months, we will hold a webinar series on interpretive planning for the 250th using the ***Field Guide***. In September at the annual conference in Boise, we will host an in-person workshop on strategic planning for 2026. These programs will equip attendees with both content and skills in support of interpretive and strategic efforts related to the 250th while making the case that the Semiquincentennial is a vital opportunity for both history organizations and the publics they serve.

Reframing History

Last February, AASLH launched its “Reframing History” initiative, the result of a two-year, deep-dive research effort to understand how history practitioners can best communicate the value of their work. The project’s report and toolkit were debuted with a major event at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History featuring author Clint Smith, historian Martha S. Jones, and museum director Jorge Zamanillo



Following the launch, AASLH has supported practitioners in using the findings to strengthen communication efforts throughout the history community. We produced a six-episode podcast series hosted by Christy Coleman and Jason Steinhauer, hosted webinars offering tips for using the project’s recommendations to support advocacy and fundraising, and offered a Reframing History workshop at our Annual Conference in Buffalo. Moving forward, AASLH will continue to offer training to help practitioners use Reframing History to improve their communications, while also using the project findings to inform our own national advocacy and outreach efforts.

Reframing History was funded through a major grant from the Mellon Foundation. It was carried out by AASLH’s Public History Research Lab in partnership with the FrameWorks Institute, National Council on Public History, and the Organization of American Historians. The Reframing History project is being developed into an online course in 2023.

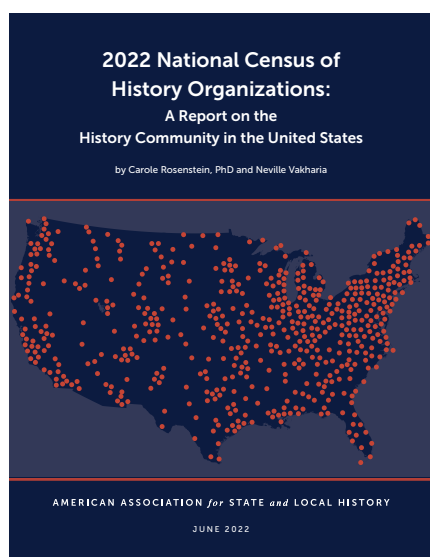
History in Our Parks Report

In May, we released “History in Our Parks: Results from a National Survey of Practitioners.” This report provided new insights into the budget, staffing, and workplace experiences of history practitioners working within state, county, and municipal parks agencies. AASLH staff worked with AASLH’s History in Our Parks task force in winter 2020–2021 to conduct a survey of practitioners doing history work in these unique circumstances.

ADVOCACY AND RESEARCH

National Census of History Organizations

In June, AASLH's Public History Research Lab published a groundbreaking new report about the size and scope of the United States' history community. The 2022 National Census of History Organizations was a first-of-its-kind research effort that produced an up-to-date, comprehensive, and high-quality data file of the nation's history museums, historic sites, and related organizations. This research has enabled us to benchmark the basic characteristics



of the field, locate strengths and gaps, and compare the history community to other related fields. The history census identified 21,588 history organizations in the United States. Our analysis of that data

revealed the unique place of history within the arts and culture sector. More specifically, we found that:

- History organizations are ubiquitous in the United States, with a presence in nearly every community around the country. History organizations exist even in places that often are underserved by other arts and culture organizations.
- Public history operates through a deep and distinct hybrid model, a partnership between government and private nonprofits. This hybridity is a source of strength for the field, but also poses challenges for data collection, comparison, and collaboration across different communities and states.
- Engagement with and access to history is imbued with a sense of public purpose. All sorts of organizations, from the smallest to the largest, place community and public benefit at the center of their work.

In the United States there are:

	21,588 History Organizations
	16,607 Public Libraries
	15,188 Starbucks
	13,452 McDonald's
	4,668 Walmarts

- Private nonprofit history organizations are overwhelmingly very, very small. Among the nonprofits in our census data file, more than 60 percent reported annual revenues of less than \$50,000; more than 80 percent reported revenues of less than \$200,000; and more than 90 percent reported revenues of less than \$1 million.

We hope these findings will be useful for institutions and practitioners across our vast and varied field, informing advocacy, grant proposals, community partnerships, and more.

National Visitation Report

For the fourth consecutive year, AASLH (through its Public History Research Lab) conducted an annual survey of visitation to history organizations. This year's survey—assessing changes in visitation from 2020 to 2021—has been particularly relevant, as it offers an important way of measuring our field's ongoing recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This year's survey found:

- In-person visitation rose 75 percent from 2020 to 2021; an important rebound following the extreme disruptions and closures of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Even with this increase, visitation levels at most institutions remained well below pre-pandemic levels.
- Virtual engagement increased considerably from before the pandemic. While just 11 percent of institutions offered virtual programming in 2019, more than 40 percent offered such programs in 2020 and 2021.
- The future of virtual programs remains uncertain, however, as engagement with such programs plateaued or declined from 2020 to 2021.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, AND INCLUSION

Inclusive approaches to history and inclusive and equitable practices in the history community were a primary focus for AASLH again in 2022.

In April, the National Council on Public History (NCPH) and AASLH together released a first-of-its-kind report on the prevalence of gender discrimination and sexual harassment in history organizations in the United States. Initiated by NCPH and based on more than 400 qualitative survey responses gathered in 2020, the report gathered data and impressions about sexual harassment and gender discrimination and begin to map out areas for further research and intervention. The survey was also a message that it is essential to talk about these issues and to legitimize this topic as one of the major challenges of the public history field.

Our 2022 Annual Conference and Virtual Conference—AASLH’s largest programs—shared the theme, ***Right Here, Right Now: The Power of Place***, a framing that lifted up discussion of belonging, authority, ownership, inclusion, and diversity. In Buffalo, the Annual Conference’s keynote speaker was Rick Hill, a citizen of the Beaver Clan of the Tuscarora Nation of the Haudenosaunee at Grand River. He explored how the meaning of place directs his work as a public historian, educator, and cultural advisor. The final plenary session was about the erasure of history and the power of place as seen through the lens of historic preservation in under-represented communities.

New at this year’s conference was a general session “Town Hall,” on “Historical Thinking Under Fire.” This forward-facing conversation was about how the history community is pushing back against censorship of historical topics, such as the history of racism, slavery, civil rights, women’s rights, and LGBTQ history. AASLH staff and an advisory group created an “Action Guide” for how history organizations should respond to educational censorship.

Meanwhile, equity and inclusion were driving forces in our professional development program of webinars, courses, and workshops. Our first three Arcus courses, for example, released in

October, focused on diversity and inclusion. The topics were “Accessibility for Historical Organizations,” “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for History Organizations,” and “Introduction to Indigenous History.”

Emphasizing inclusive history is also at the core of AASLH plans for the nation’s 250th anniversary. The five historical themes we have released for 2026 are based on an inclusive approach to commemorating the past. Our fundraising associated with the 250th is for programs and resources to advance diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion work, and we are building collaborations for the years ahead that will improve our ability to serve underrepresented communities.

In 2021 the Diversity & Inclusion Committee conducted a survey of AASLH committees, Council, and staff to find out how diverse these groups are and what their members think of the culture of inclusion within their groups. This past year, the D&I Committee deepened the survey by conducting an internal equity and inclusion assessment of the AASLH staff. The committee’s findings are leading to many changes in how staff members are managed, how we run meetings, how we communicate, and how we behave toward each other in the AASLH office and in all AASLH gatherings. We are doing this internal work so that AASLH as an organization can be a better partner to other organizations and a better resource for our members.

2022 Douglas Evelyn Scholarship for Minority Professionals

The following individuals received free registration and \$700 in travel funds to attend the 2022 AASLH Conference in Buffalo.

Li Edwards, Executive Director, American Chinese Museum, Wayne, PA

Traci Jones, Education and Interpretation Specialist, Alabama African American Civil Rights Heritage Sites Consortium, Hoover, AL

Manisha Khetarpal, Dean of Library and Information Services, Maskwacis Cultural College, Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada (*for virtual conference*)

Deborah Omowale, CEO/Director, San Antonio African American Community Archive and Museum, San Antonio, TX

Cathy Runnels, Culture and Arts Education Specialist, The George Washington Carver Museum, Cultural and Genealogy Center, Austin, TX

Sierra Van Ryck deGroot, Deputy Director, Museum Hue, Allendale, NJ

Shu Wan, Doctoral Student, University of Buffalo, Buffalo, NY

Evan Wright, Academic and Community Engagement Manager, Castellani Art Museum of Niagara University, Niagara University, NY

2022 AASLH ANNUAL CONFERENCES

Over 730 AASLHers gathered in Buffalo, New York, September 14–17 to explore the theme ***Right Here, Right Now: The Power of Place.***

The conference program co-chairs, Sarah Jencks and Jennifer Ortiz, worked with the program committee to select great sessions and design powerful plenary events. The host committee co-chairs, Terry Abrams and Melissa Brown, put together a series of tours and evening events showing off the rich history and natural beauty of western New York, including the Buffalo History Museum, Canalside, Niagara Falls, and the Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor.

Rick Hill, a citizen of the Beaver Clan of the Tuscarora Nation of the Haudenosaunee at Grand River, opened the conference reflecting on the meaning of the power of place to Indigenous peoples. His experiences as the former Assistant Director for Public Programs at the National Museum of the American Indian of the Smithsonian Institution, Museum Director at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, and as an Assistant Professor in Native American Studies at SUNY Buffalo gave him a unique perspective to share with attendees on the topic of land, places, and culture.

AASLH hosted a town hall session on Thursday afternoon to talk about the role of historical organizations in opposing the censorship of history education. In recent years, the rise of “divisive concepts” legislation has limited the teaching



Keynote Speaker
Rick Hil.



of history that might make a student feel uncomfortable. These concepts include slavery, civil rights, women’s rights, LGBTQ+ history, and more, leaving our field in a difficult place. Town hall



2022 AASLH ANNUAL CONFERENCES

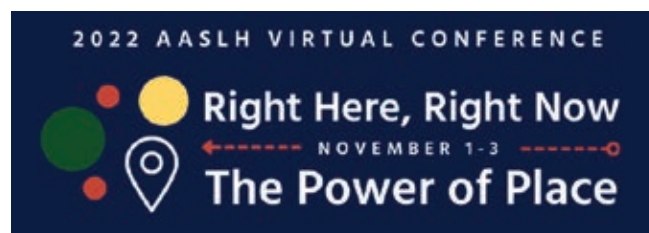
participants discussed what the history field can do to combat these restrictions, support teachers, and continue to champion diverse history at all levels of education. Sarah Jencks of History Co:Lab moderated the discussion which included Steve Murray, Director at Alabama Department of Archives & History; Noelle Trent, Ph.D., Director of Interpretation, Collections & Education at the National Civil Rights Museum; and Jennifer Warner from Made By History. AASLH will be continuing this conversation at future gatherings and in a working group as the field moves closer to the Semiquincentennial in 2026.

Friday's lunch plenary focused on the topic of who decides which places are preserved. Moderated by Estevan Rael-Gálvez, Principal of Creative Strategies 360° and former New Mexico State Historian, this session engaged panelists Eola Dance, National Park Service Superintendent at Fort Monroe; Jessie Fisher, Executive Director at Preservation Buffalo; and Brent Leggs, Executive Director of the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund and Senior Vice President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in a conversation about what inclusion means in regards to historic preservation.

VIRTUAL

AASLH hosted its third virtual conference November 1–3. Conference program co-chairs Sarah Jencks and Jennifer Ortiz used the same theme as the Buffalo meeting, ***Right Here, Right Now: The Power of Place***, but with an emphasis on how we create places in the virtual world. Jason Steinhauer, author of the bestselling book ***History Disrupted***, looked at the many ways the web and social media have changed how the public thinks about history and how historians communicate.

The conference also highlighted new voices talking about history on new social media platforms. TikTok creators, such as Seema Rao with Brilliant Idea Studio and Shermann “Dilla” Thomas of Chicago Mahogany, LLC, are using the platform to bring marginalized stories to a broad audience. It is clear from the popularity of these videos that there is a great desire to connect with stories left out of “traditional” narratives.



The virtual conference wrapped up with a session created by emerging professionals which addressed how history organizations can help Gen Z to connect to the history field. Molly Wilmoth from the High Desert Museum moderated the panel with Gen Z Civic Season Design Fellows and staff from Made By Us: Cameron Katz, Henry Jacob, and Hope-Marie Delgado. Made By Us is a coalition of 150+ museums and historic sites focused on serving 18–30-year-olds. Panelists discussed how historians can expand the conversation to include the next inheritors of our nation. They offered insight into what makes these individuals tick and how to take an audience-first approach with your programming and content to reach the next generation.

Other sessions focused on community engagement, interpreting water, moving beyond tokenizing school programs, and leading for change.



Erasure of History & Power of Place: A Conversation
panelists Eola Dance, Jessie Fisher, Brent Leggs, and
Estevan Rael-Gálvez.

COMMUNITY AND CONNECTION

Membership Survey

This past year AASLH reported on its first membership survey in six years. One of the most interesting findings was about why people join AASLH. The most frequent reason given was to “stay up to date on current news and issues in the field.” Three of the next most selected reasons were similar: People want to feel part of the history community. They want to stay connected with other professionals. And they want to belong to a nationally recognized organization. All of these are about connecting to others and contributing to a sense of common purpose.

The full report, discussed in *History News*, Volume 77, Number 2, shows an association undergoing change. Earlier AASLH surveys dating back to 1979 were included in the analysis to provide longer perspective. While more than 90 percent of the membership is

	1979	2002	2006	2011	2015	2021
Female	48%	63%	64%	63%	68%	70%
Male	52%	37%	36%	37%	32%	29%
Another identity	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<1%

Region	2021 Survey	U.S. Census 2020
South	35%	38%
Midwest	26%	21%
Northeast	20%	17%
West	19%	24%
Canada	<1%	N/A

white, the members of AASLH who identify with a race or ethnicity other than white have more than doubled in the past several years. Meanwhile, the ratio of women to men has been about two to one for about twenty years. It has been slowly increasing,

with a bit more speed in the past several years, and now stands at 70 percent female, 29 percent male, and one percent indicating another gender identity. Nearly half of AASLH members are 55 years or older, but the percentage of more senior members has been shrinking: in 2011 it was 53 percent, in 2015 it grew to 57 percent, and today has dropped to 47 percent. While the percentage of graduate students in the membership has dropped from 8 percent in 1979 to 2 percent today, the ratio of advanced degrees has been surprisingly constant over this period. In 1979, it was 58 percent of members holding an MA and 12 percent a PhD; today it is 58 percent with an MA, and 9 percent with a PhD.



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Above: 2021 survey contents.
Right: The 1979 survey shows a field transforming in the wake of the Bicentennial.

State Historical Administrators Meeting

In December, the leaders of state historical societies and state museums representing twenty-six states gathered for the State Historical Administrators Meeting (SHAM) in Richmond, Virginia. The meeting was hosted by the Virginia Museum of History and Culture. Facilitated by AASLH since 1968, this was the 55th SHAM. Key topics in Richmond included planning for the nation's 250th anniversary, navigating current political tensions, the state of the history profession, best practices for staffing and remote work, community-engaged strategic planning, working with Native American advisory committees, best practices for working with friends groups, and the role of state historians.

2022 AWARD WINNERS



In May, our national awards committee met in St. Louis to review the 2022 Leadership in History Awards nominations and recognize outstanding projects from around the country. This year, the committee conferred fifty-three 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 in September at our Annual Conference in Buffalo.

The winner of the 2022 Albert B. Corey Award, recognizing exceptional all-volunteer institutions, is the **1 Cedar Lake Historical Association** (Cedar Lake, IN). History in Progress (HIP) Award winners represent the most creative and inspiring projects each year, and four projects rose to the top in 2022: **2 Friends of Wood Memorial Library & Museum** (South Windsor, CT) for Nowashe Village, **3 History Colorado** (Denver, CO) for *KKK Ledgers Rollout Project*, **4 the Minnesota Humanities Center** in



partnership with the **Collaborative Legal Community Coalition** (Duluth, MN) for *Understanding Our Duluth Lynchings: Racial Violence in America and the Road to Justice and Reconciliation*, and **5 President Lincoln's Cottage** (Washington, D.C.) for *Reflections on Grief and Child Loss*.

This year's Publication Award winners draw from fascinating research on diverse topics. In the Large Press category, the winner is ***Daybreak Woman: An Anglo-Dakota Life*** by Jane Lamm Carroll (Minnesota Historical Society Press). Highlighted for an honorable mention is ***We Will Always Be Here: A Guide to Exploring and Understanding the History of LGBTQ+ Activism in Wisconsin*** by Jenny Kalvaitis and Kristen Whitson (Wisconsin Historical Society Press). The winner of the Small Press/Independent Author category is ***Monumental: Oscar Dunn and His Radical Fight in Reconstruction Louisiana*** by Brian K. Mitchell, Barrington S. Edwards, and Nick Weldon (The Historic New Orleans Collection).



BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 2022

2022 was an exciting year for our book series published with Rowman & Littlefield.

Dr. Rebekah Beaulieu of the Taft Museum of Art joined the board as series editor, and we released five new titles:

Exploring American Healthcare through 50 Historic Treasures

by Tegan Kehoe

Beyond the Bake Sale: Fundraising for Local History Organizations

by Jamie Simek

Rebranding: A Guide for Historic Houses, Museums, Sites, and Organizations

by Jane Mitchell Eliasof

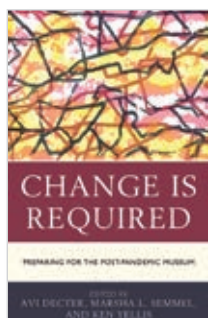
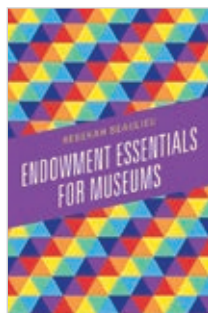
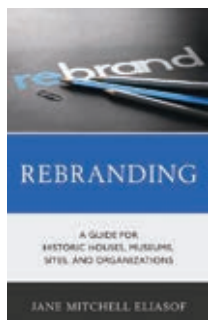
Endowment Essentials for Museums

by Rebekah Beaulieu

Change is Required: Preparing for the Post-Pandemic Museum

edited by Avi Y. Decter, Marsha L. Semmel, and Ken Yellis

These authors and editors are also translating their work into webinars and conference sessions, broadening their audiences for these important topics.



STEPS PROGRAM STANDARDS AND EXCELLENCE PROGRAM FOR HISTORY ORGANIZATIONS

STEPS Certificates Earned in 2022

(number of certificates)

Akta Lakota Museum & Cultural Center,
Chamberlain, SD (1)

Berman Museum,
Anniston, AL (1)

Boulder City Hoover Dam Museum,
Boulder City, NV (13)

City of Boulder Department of Open Space and Mountain Parks, Boulder, CO (3)

City of Brighton, Brighton, CO (1)

Company of Fifers & Drummers, Ivoryton, CT (1)

Douglas County Libraries, Castle Rock, CO (6)

Effingham County Cultural Center and Museum Association, Effingham, IL (1)

Fairfield County Heritage Association,
Lancaster, OH (2)

Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Museum,
Aurora, IL (1)

Harbor History Museum, Gig Harbor, WA (6)

Havana History and Heritage Society,
Havana, FL (10)

Jekyll Island Authority, Jekyll Island, GA (3)

Johnston Historical Society, Johnston, IA (1)

Lorain Historical Society, Lorain, OH (5)

Marlboro County Historical Museum,
Bennettsville, SC (3)

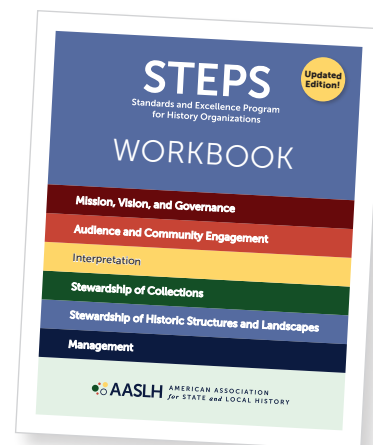
Nahant Historical Society, Nahant, MA (3)

State Forest State Park, Walden, CO (18)

The Cleo Redd Fisher Museum, Loudonville, OH (2)

Village of Addison, Addison, IL (2)

Wood Library Museum of Anesthesiology,
Schaumburg, IL (5)



2023 AASLH CONFERENCE

“I, TOO, AM AMERICA”



BOISE, ID

SEPTEMBER 6-9

The 2023 conference theme *I, Too, am America* is inspired by Harlem Renaissance poet Langston Hughes’s 1926 poem “I, Too,” where he stakes his claim on the evolving promise of an inclusive nation by stating “I, too, am America.” The statement evokes an inclusive definition of America which expands beyond citizenship documentation to everyone who lives, works, and contributes to American society regardless of legal or other status. “I, too, am America” applies to all people: Black, white, Asian, Latinx, Indigenous, LGBTQ+, men, women, nonbinary individuals, adults, teens, children, the elderly, immigrants, undocumented individuals, poor and low-income people, non-native English speakers, multi-lingual people, high school graduates, college students, K–12 students, the formerly incarcerated, the currently incarcerated, East Coast, West Coast, South, Southwest, Midwest, and all variations in between. With this theme we will be looking at the past, present, and future states of being an American, how we interpret American history, and our evolving audience.

Dynamic Boise, Idaho, will serve as the location for this discussion. In 2019, Boise was the second-fastest-growing metro area in the nation. The city’s longstanding commitment as an inviting place to all has resulted in it welcoming over 800 new citizens each year from more than 20 foreign countries.

Idaho is home to five federally recognized tribes—the Kootenai, Coeur d’Alene, Nez Perce, Shoshone Paiute, and Shoshone Bannock—whose history and culture can be seen throughout the state. Idaho’s distinct and rugged landscape and the city of Boise’s incorporation of urban and outdoor landscapes urges us to consider the influence of changing landscapes on our work, identity, and community. The land within the state, which spans nearly 700 miles from its northern edge at the Canadian border to its southern neighbor Utah, has significantly shaped the culture and character of its people. Home to the second-largest Basque population in North America, Boise reminds us of the influence and culture that immigrant groups bring to our communities.

“I, too, am America” means that we must consider all parts of the country and all people within the country. It is a demand echoing throughout history and reverberating within Idaho’s history. From women’s suffrage in 1896 to the Native American struggle for civil and human rights to the preservation and interpretation of Japanese internment camps to the state’s ever-evolving demographics, Idaho reflects the ongoing discussion of American identity. Join us in Boise as we gather and explore our collective identity. Registration will open online in early June.

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

FY 2022 AUDITED STATEMENTS • YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022

CURRENT ASSETS

	2022	2021
Cash and cash equivalents	\$328,510	\$444,550
Restricted cash	\$251,932	\$229,832
Accounts receivable	\$117,707	\$107,939
Grant receivable	\$10,070	\$11,075
Other assets	\$80,033	\$68,762
Total current assets	\$788,252	\$862,158
Property and equipment	\$8,777	\$5,597
Investments, substantially restricted	\$2,013,840	\$2,315,708
Total assets	\$2,810,869	\$3,183,463

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current liabilities	2022	2021
Accounts payable	\$122,471	\$116,631
Current portion of note payable*	0	0
Unearned membership dues	\$364,825	\$328,419
Unearned revenue	\$232,226	\$349,493
Total current liabilities	\$719,522	\$794,543
Net assets		
Without donor restrictions	(\$72,888)	\$108,156
With donor restrictions	\$2,164,235	\$2,280,764
Total net assets	\$2,091,347	\$2,388,920
Total liabilities and net assets	\$2,810,869	\$3,183,463

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Revenues, gains, and other support	Without donor restrictions	With donor restrictions	Total
Total revenues, gains, and other support	\$1,603,417	(\$116,529)	\$1,486,888
Operating expenses	\$1,074,699		\$1,074,699
Supporting services	\$709,762		\$709,762
Total operating expenses	\$1,784,461		\$1,784,461
Change in net assets from operations	(\$181,044)	(\$116,529)	(\$297,573)
Net assets, beginning of year	\$108,156	\$2,280,764	\$2,388,920
Net assets, year-end	(\$72,888)	\$2,164,235	\$2,091,347
Statement of cash flow			
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(\$93,990)		\$270,044
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	\$674,382		\$404,338
Total	\$580,392		\$674,382

*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.



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