

# **CONTENTS**

Introduction
Types of Awards
Eligibility4
Timeline5
Criteria for Evaluation
Project Categories
Nomination Sections9
Section 1: Nomination Narrative9
Section 2: Letters of Critical Review11
Section 3: One-Page Budget13
Section 4: Project Staffing14
Section 5: Project Category Documentation15
Section 6: Additional Materials (Not Required)19
Nomination Checklist20
Tips for a Great Nomination23
AASLH Awards Team Members25



## **INTRODUCTION**

## What is an Award of Excellence?

For over 75 years, AASLH has given Leadership in History Awards to promote excellence in collecting, preserving, and sharing state and local history, making the past more meaningful for everyone.

Award winners serve as examples and inspiration for others in the field. We offer awards for different types of projects that exemplify Good History (see <u>Project Categories</u> below). Winners come from across North America, representing organizations of all sizes and budgets.

## How Many Projects Receive Awards?

The number varies every year. Our awards program is non-competitive (except for the Publications category), so your nomination is not competing with others for a limited number of awards. We encourage nominations from small or all-volunteer organizations.

## Why Should We Apply?

Winning an AASLH award brings national recognition to your work! It can help with marketing, securing grants, fundraising, forming new partnerships, rewarding innovation, boosting staff morale, and raising your project's visibility both locally and nationally.



# **TYPES OF AWARDS**

### Award of Excellence (Nominations due March 1):

This is the main award for projects or individuals. It recognizes excellence for:

- Projects
  - Community Engagement
  - o Exhibits
  - o Multimedia
  - Public Programming
  - Special Projects
  - o Studies
- Individual Lifetime Achievement
- Publications

The Awards Committee may also give extra recognition to certain Award of Excellence winners, but you do not need to apply for these additional honors.

- **The Albert B. Corey Award**: This award can be given to volunteer-run historical organizations that show outstanding energy, scholarship, and creativity. The Awards Committee can recommend any volunteer organization nominated for the Award of Excellence for this special recognition. A \$500 prize accompanies this award.
- The History in Progress (HIP) Award: This award is given to an Award of Excellence winner whose project is highly inspirational, shows exceptional scholarship, or demonstrates creativity in funding, partnerships, or problem-solving. The Awards Committee makes this selection at their discretion.

## Award of Distinction (Preliminary nominations due February 1):

This is a top-level award given to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of state and local history and are recognized as national leaders. It is awarded rarely and recognizes long and distinguished service. Past winners include Lonnie Bunch, Sandra Clark, and John and Anita Durel.



## **ELIGIBILITY**



## Who:

AASLH encourages organizations to self-nominate for the Leadership in History Award of Excellence. You **do not need** to be an AASLH member to apply, and except for the Individual Lifetime Achievement award, you can nominate yourself.



### What:

Awards are given for proven accomplishments. Ideas, plans, exhibits or projects that have just started are usually not eligible. The Awards Committee requires evidence of achievements over time. Awards are not given to nominees whose contributions are mainly financial.



### When:

Most awards are given for accomplishments that happened within the 18 months before the March 1 deadline (from September 1, 2023, to March 1, 2025). However, the Studies category is an exception, as those can be from the past five years. Exhibits should be open long enough to assess their impact on the community. In some cases, awards may be given for work that goes beyond 18 months, such as long-term projects reaching a key milestone or those with a new, innovative component.



### Where:

Nominations from organizations and individuals in North America (U.S., Canada, and Mexico) are eligible. International applications may also be accepted. If you are outside North America, contact AASLH before applying to check eligibility. International applicants will have a Regional or State Representative as a reviewer.



## TIMELINE

#### **Early December to March 1: Nomination Process**

Start early to gather everything needed for your nomination.

- 1. Contact your State or Regional Representative for help and advice on your nomination. You can find their contact info on the <u>awards webpage</u>.
- 2. Create a Submittable account, so you can preview the application. You can save and return to your form.
- 3. Read the award <u>guidelines</u> for your nomination type (Projects, Publications, Individual Lifetime Achievement, or Award of Distinction).
- 4. Contact potential writers of two Critical Reviews.
- 5. Compile your application materials.
- 6. Submit your nomination form online by March 1 (February 1 for Award of Distinction) via Submittable.

#### Late March to September: Evaluation and Awarding Process

Once you submit your materials by March 1, the review process begins:

- By late March, your State Representative will review your submission and may ask for more details or suggest improvements. They send their feedback to the Regional Representative. After March 1, contact AASLH staff if you need to make any changes to your nomination in Submittable.
- 2. In April, Regional Representatives review nominations and may offer more suggestions.
- 3. In May, the Awards Committee meets to evaluate all nominations and select winners by vote. Some winners may get special awards, like the Albert B. Corey Award or the History in Progress Award.
- 4. In June, nominees are notified if they won or not, and winners get information for local publicity.
- 5. In September, winners are celebrated and receive their awards at the AASLH Annual Meeting.



# **CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION**

When evaluating nominations for all award categories, the following general criteria are applied:

- **Good History:** The nomination should significantly contribute to state and/or local history, adhering to the standards outlined in the guidelines. Nominations should prove that the project is an example of Good History. Good History:
  - **Embraces difficult topics** by reflecting current scholarship, grounding the work in primary source research, and supplemented with secondary sources to provide context. Provides a genuine contribution to the understanding of history.
  - Acts to build diversity and inclusiveness through interpretation that considers race, ethnicity, gender, social class, and geography, and is provocative through presenting contested history and multiple perspectives.
  - Cultivates an experimental and creative spirit as a source for imaginative problem solving, exploring new approaches, and resourcefulness, while also looking to others for inspiration. Projects that extend the mission of an organization, demonstrate risk-taking, and offer activities outside conventional boundaries will merit greatest consideration.
  - **Demonstrates the relevance of history** and showcases how the public can make use of the past in discussions of the present and the future.
  - Attempts to be accessible to wide audiences with differing learning styles, abilities, and interest in history. These can include eliminating obstacles for those with special needs and/or barriers to attendance due to location and hours of operation. Examples include Closed Captioning or font/color contrast choices for visitors with hearing or visual assistance needs, or online components to assist potential patrons with transportation or mobility restrictions.
  - For a complete statement with examples of "Good History," read the <u>Awards</u> <u>Committee's Statement on Good History</u>.





- **Effort:** The work must be exceptional and go beyond routine duties. Simply fulfilling expected responsibilities does not merit an award.
- **Best Practices:** The project should align with current theories, practices, and procedures accepted in the field of state and local history, as well as relevant disciplinary standards.
  - Projects should help the organization better serve the public, reach new audiences, improve existing programs, encourage civic engagement, follow care guidelines for collections, and reflect a lasting commitment to improvement.
  - Reviewers will consider accepted best practices specific to your project when making recommendations for awards.
- **Ingenuity:** Special consideration is given to innovative ideas, approaches, collaborations, and well-executed innovations that can serve as models for the field.
- **Resources:** Nominations are evaluated based on the resources available to the nominees, such as funds, collections, individual talents, or professional training and experience. The focus is on how effectively these resources are utilized. Organizations or individuals with more resources will be judged more rigorously than those with fewer resources or who are all-volunteer.
- Quality and Professionalism: The nomination should demonstrate genuine accomplishments in state and local history, reflecting professional growth and enhancing the organization's mission.
- **Impact:** The nomination should prove the project's impact on the community. Impact can be assessed through measurable metrics, qualitative analysis, and/or audience feedback.

These criteria ensure a consistent and effective evaluation process across all award categories.



# **PROJECT CATEGORIES**

Note: Many projects can fit into more than one category. It is up to you to decide which category best suits your project. If you are unsure, contact your State or Regional Representative for help. Once you choose, follow the specific rules for that category.

- **Community Engagement:** This category is for projects where the community played a big role in creating or executing the project. This includes projects responding to community needs like social issues, natural disasters, or economic changes.
- **Exhibits:** This category is for physical exhibitions. Exhibits may have supporting programs, publications, or multimedia elements. If these additional elements significantly bolster the project's <u>Criteria for Evaluation</u>, consider applying under the Special Projects category.
- **Multimedia:** This category is for projects using formats like video, audio, podcasts, websites, or other online platforms.
- **Public Programming:** This category includes educational events, festivals, workshops, or performances, whether in-person or virtual.
- **Special Projects:** This category is for projects that do not fit into other categories or have multiple components, like an exhibit with substantial related educational programs or multimedia components. You can also submit just one part of a larger project under the specific category it fits, like Exhibits.
- **Studies:** This category is for research projects completed in the last five years to increase knowledge for a specific purpose, like historic preservation or influencing public policy.



# **NOMINATION SECTIONS**

All categories for the Award of Excellence have similar requirements **except for section 5**, which will differ according to the category you choose for your nomination.

### Section 1: Nomination Narrative

The nomination narrative is made up of five block text fields in the Submittable application. Plan to cut and paste your text into these fields. You can save and return to your form before you finalize the submission.

- Overview (350 words):
  - Introduce your project or organization, highlighting its achievements and community impact.
    - For exhibits, include the opening date and (if applicable) closing date
  - Explain the goals, how they were achieved, and who the intended audience is and how they were reached. Be sure to include the name of your organization or project.
    - Examples of broad intended audiences: students, families, or local residents
    - Examples of narrow intended audiences: veterans, a specific community group, or individuals interested in a particular activity.
  - Remember the Awards Committee may not be familiar with your project, so provide a clear but brief overview.

#### • Mission (350 words):

- o Include your institution or group's mission statement.
- State how the project or organizational achievement has supported the mission of your institution or group.
- If your organization is an informal organization and does not have an official Mission Statement, provide a sentence that gives a broad understanding of the goals of your informal organization.
- This can include references to a strategic plan or a broader discussion of a general mission and how the project helps further it.



#### • Good History (350 words):

- Explain how the project exemplifies at least one of the attributes of Good History (Read the definition of <u>Good History</u> above):
  - Difficult history
  - Diversity and inclusion
  - Innovation
  - Contemporary relevance
  - Expanded accessibility.

#### • Impact (350 words):

- Describe how you assessed and evaluated success for this project and how you measured impact for this project. Examples of ways to measure success:
  - Number of participants
  - Feedback from the public
  - Audience surveys
  - Social media comments
  - Letters from visitors
  - Other letters of support
  - Formal visitor studies
- Address how your project's impact will be sustained over time, how the project will continue in the future or how the organization will build on the success of the project.

#### • Lessons Learned (350 words):

- With hindsight, share any lessons learned during the process.
- Address any weaknesses in the process that other organizations should avoid.



## Section 2: Letters of Critical Review

#### What is a Critical Review?

- Letters should be in narrative form and approximately two pages in length.
- Letters should provide review the strengths and weaknesses of the nominated project.
- Letters can suggest future improvements for a project or next steps for the organization.
- Reviews published in scholarly journals may be substituted for one letter of critical review and should reflect either the scholarship or the outcome and effect of the project.
- Download the Instructions for Critical Review letters provided by AASLH.
- Download <u>sample Critical Review letters</u> provided by AASLH for your category:
  - Community Engagement
  - o Exhibits
  - o Multimedia
  - o Public Programming
  - Special Projects
  - o Studies
  - o Individual Achievement

#### What is NOT a Critical Review?

- Letters of support
- Local news coverage
- Press releases

#### How Many Do You Need?

You need <u>TWO</u> letters of critical testimony from at least <u>TWO</u> unbiased professionals not involved with the project or nominee is required.

- **Scholarship Critical Review:** One of the critical reviews should address the scholarship involved with the nomination.
- **Outcome & Effect Review:** The second critical review should address the outcome and effect of the project on the organization, community, or constituencies served.



#### Who Can Write a Critical Review?

- Qualified individuals who were not involved with the project.
  - o Professors
  - o Teachers
  - Museum professionals
  - Members of the community
- Ideally reviewers have seen or experienced your nominated project.
- Why and how the critical reviewers are qualified to provide critical testimony should be either clearly stated in the testimony itself or attached in a short biographical statement (no more than 250 words).

#### Do Reviewers Need to Submit a Resume or CV?

• No. Reviewers can embed their qualifications within the letter or attach a short biographical statement.

#### Who Cannot Write a Critical Review?

- Individuals working for the same institution affiliated with a nominated project
- Board members and other volunteers connected to the institution
- Someone who participated in any aspect of a nominated project (as a participant, scholar, or funder)
- Have questions about a conflict of interest? Please reach out to your State or Regional Representative.

#### How Should You Ask for Reviewers?

- Brainstorm reviewers for both letters (one for scholarship, one for outcome and effect).
- Draft your Nomination Narrative.
- Share your Nomination Narrative, the Instructions for Critical Review letters, and a sample Critical Review letter with your potential reviewer.
- Ask to receive their review before March 1 so you have time to review it before the submission deadline.



### Section 3: One-Page Budget

- Please provide a budget sheet that lists **all revenues AND expenses**. This can include in-kind contributions and staff salaries.
- Budgets are not necessary for the Individual Achievement category.
- If you have questions about providing this information, please contact your State or Regional Representative.

#### Sample One-Page Budget:

Expenses	
External Writer and Researcher	\$10,000
External Focus Group Research	\$15,000
External Planning Committee Stipends	\$10,000
Staff Salaries	\$40,000
Art Handlers	\$150,000
Photography	\$4,000
Exhibit Design	\$70,000
Marketing & Promotion	\$12,000
Building Renovation	\$250,000
Exhibit Fabrication & Install	\$500,000
Studio Total	\$1,061,000.00

Revenue	
Family Foundation	\$150,000
Community Foundation	\$400,000
Capital Campaign Donors	\$300,000
Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits	\$150,000
Other Grants	\$21,000
Operating Budget	\$40,000
Studio Total	\$1,061,000.00



## Section 4: Project Staffing

- Provide a list with the names of **key members** of the project team as well as their roles, responsibilities and short biographical statements.
- Each biography should be no more than 150 words.

#### **Example Project Staffing Biographical Statements:**

• Liz Reilly-Brown: Director of Education & Engagement

As the Director of Education & Engagement, Reilly-Brown served as the point person for the interpretation plan for *Dissent! Liberty and Loyalty in Early Richmond*. She oversees the museum's department dedicated to presenting Richmond's history to diverse audiences through programs, field trips, tours, and digital resources. Reilly-Brown received her BA in Art History from the University of Florida and her MA in Art History and Museum Studies from Virginia Commonwealth University. She has previously worked for the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, the Church Street School of Music and Art, the Brooklyn Museum, and other local art and history organizations.

• Christina Keyser Vida: Curator of General Collections

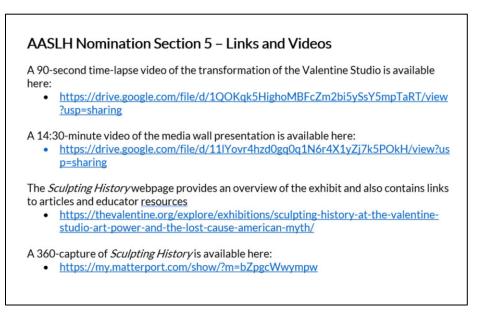
As the Curator of General Collections at the Valentine Museum, Vida served as the curator and researcher of *Dissent! Liberty and Loyalty in Early Richmond*. Vida received her BA in History from the College of William and Mary and a MA from the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture at the University of Delaware. She has previous work experience in curatorial and education roles at George Washington's Mount Vernon, Windsor Historical Society (CT), and the Virginia Museum of History & Culture (Virginia Historical Society). While at the Valentine, Vida had curated exhibitions on Richmond's suffragists, parks and recreational spaces, and signage as well as holistic looks at Richmond in the 1890s and the Lost Cause mythology.



## Section 5: Project Category Documentation

Refer to the <u>NOMINATION CHECKLIST</u> (pages 19-21) for the specific documentation needed for your project category. Nominations without this documentation will not be considered.

- Written Materials (Community Engagement/Exhibits/Multimedia/Public Programming/ Special Projects/Studies): Written materials associated with your project should be provided to reviewers as a Word or PDF upload. This is your opportunity to share the **substantive content** of your project with the Awards Committee. These include but are not limited to:
  - All exhibit text panel/artifact label copy
  - Program handouts
  - o Scripts or outlines for public programming events
  - Closed Captioning or transcripts for any video or audio components.
- Videos/Other Related URLs (Community Engagement/Exhibits/Multimedia/Public Programming/Special Projects/Studies): Provide URLs for videos, audio, or online components that are part of the nominated project. Scripted videos or audio must include closed captions or a transcript. Ensure your story is clear in your nomination without relying on the links.
  - Collect all URLs in one Word or PDF document.





- Statement of Works and Resources Consulted/Bibliography (Community Engagement/Exhibits/Multimedia/Public Programming/Special Projects/Studies): This documentation shows reviewers the sources and viewpoints you used to provide historical context or demonstrate best practices in your project.
- **Photographs** (Community Engagement/Exhibits/Multimedia/Public Programming/ Special Projects/Studies): Provide 10–12 images only, showing elements of your process and the final project. These should document any programs and exhibit space. Photos should be in focus, about 2.5-3MB in size (800 pixels or approximately 11" along the shortest side) @ 72 dpi.
  - Combine all images into one document.
- Marketing Materials (Community Engagement/Exhibits/Multimedia/Public Programming/Community Engagement/Special Projects/Studies): Provide marketing materials for the project, such as ads, handouts, social media posts, public service announcements, etc.
  - Combine all marketing materials into one document that is no more than 3 pages.
- Evaluation Information (Community Engagement/Exhibits/Multimedia/Public Programming/ Special Projects/Studies): This document expands on your Impact Statement from <u>Section 1</u>. It should show the impact and results of the nominated project on the target audience and explain how the nominee has used or will use the gathered information. You can include both quantitative and qualitative evaluations,
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Limit this PDF document to 5 pages.



• **Exhibit Object List** (Exhibits): Provide a representative list of artifacts used in the exhibit. It does not need to include every item but give enough details (like a short description) to help reviewers understand each artifact's context in the exhibit.

Picture*	Accession Number	Description	Date
	V.2018.29.08	Soccer ball used by La Asociación de Hispano Americanos de Richmond (AHAR) Soccer Team	1994
<b>گگگ</b>	V.2022.41	Painted gourds depicting Pamunkey creation story and historic leaders	2022
	V.91.95.01	WTVR Television Camera	1948

#### • Example Object List:

\*Images of objects are not required.

- Formatted Exhibit Text Panel/Label Examples (Exhibits): This is meant to show your exhibit design. Please provide examples of formatted text panels and object labels. Include:
  - At least one introductory panel
  - o At least one theme or section panels
  - 5-10 artifact labels
  - Combine your production files and submit these as one PDF file that is no more than 10 pages long.
  - If a digital document is not available, photographs of the exhibit showing the exhibit panels and labels in place is acceptable.
- **Exhibit Floor Plan** (Exhibits): Provide a full exhibit floor plan, including square footage. DIY sketches of floor plans are acceptable.



- **Curriculum/Lesson Plans** (Public Programming): If your project includes formal education programming, please upload any curriculum and/or lesson plans developed for your programs.
- State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) or Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO)
   Letter (Special Projects): For projects involving the preservation of a historic structure (listed
   or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places), include a letter from your State
   Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) confirming compliance with the Secretary of Interior's
   Standards. For projects on tribal land, include a letter from the Tribal Council or Tribal
   Historic Preservation Office (THPO).
- **Documentation of Methodology and Community Participation** (Studies): Provide documentation showing how your study was conducted and who participated in your intended community.
- Any Published Materials Resulting from the Study (Studies): Provide uploads or links to any published materials resulting from the nominated study.
- **Relevant Components from Other Categories** (Special Projects): "Special Projects" either do not fit any existing category or combine two or more. If the latter, clearly state which categories are included and provide the required documentation for each.



## Section 6: Additional Materials (Not Required)

- This section is for other non-required materials that you feel will enhance your nomination. Examples of appropriate materials include:
  - General letters of support
  - Additional promotional materials
  - o Additional publicity materials
  - Evaluations
  - Further information
- Combine these into a PDF file that is **no more than five pages**.



# **NOMINATION CHECKLIST**

SECTION REQUIREMENTS	Community Engagement	Exhibits	Multimedia	Public Programming	Special Projects	Studies
SECTION 1: NOMINATION NAP	RATIVE					
OVERVIEW (350 words) should address:						
Description of project & achievements	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
How evaluation criteria met						
MISSION (350 words) should address:						
Organization's mission statement	х	х	х	х	х	х
How project supports mission						
GOOD HISTORY STATEMENT (350 words) should address:						
Difficult topics	v	V	V	V	v	V
Diversity & inclusion	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
Innovation						
Relevance						
Accessibility						
IMPACT STATEMENT (350 words) should address:						
Intended audience(s) reached	х	х	х	х	х	х
Methods of evaluation						
How impacts will be sustained over time						
LESSONS LEARNED (350 words) should address:						
Lessons for the field Process weaknesses to avoid	Х	х	Х	х	х	х



SECTION REQUIREMENTS	Community Engagement	Exhibits	Multimedia	Public Programming	Special Projects	Studies
SECTION 2: CRITICAL REVIEW I	ETTERS					
Letter reviewing scholarly merit with short bio	х	х	х	х	х	х
Letter reviewing community impact with short bio	х	х	х	х	х	х
SECTION 3: BUDGET					-	
One-page budget with revenues and expenses	х	х	х	х	х	х
SECTION 4: PROJECT STAFFING	}		-		-	
List of key project team members with roles and short bios	Х	х	Х	Х	х	х
SECTION 5: CATEGORY DOCUM	IENTATION					
Written materials (scripts/transcripts/exhibit text/program handouts)	х	х	х	х	х	х
Videos/other related URLs	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
Bibliography	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
Photographs (10-12)	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
Marketing materials (3 pages max)	Х	х	х	Х	х	х
Evaluation (5 pages max)	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
Exhibit floor plan		Х				
Exhibit select object list		Х				
Formatted select graphic panels (10 pages max)		Х				
Curriculum/lesson plans (if formal education program)				х		
SHPO or THPO letter (if involving historic structure preservation)					х	
Documentation of methodology and community participation						х



SECTION REQUIREMENTS	Community Engagement	Exhibits	Multimedia	Public Programming	Special Projects	Studies
Published materials resulting from study						х
Special Projects that include multiple categories require materials requested for each component category					х	
SECTION 6: OPTIONAL SUPPORT MATERIALS (5 pages max)						
Publicity (press coverage, etc.)						
Other contextual materials not specified						



# **TIPS FOR A GREAT NOMINATION**

- **Do not wait** until you have a question to reach out to your State or Regional Representative or AASLH staff. We recommend contacting them before starting the nomination process.
- Watch the free informational webinar "What Are the Leadership in History Awards?" either live in January each year or via the recording posted to the awards webpage.
- **Be concise:** unnecessary documentation does not help a nomination. The Awards Committee has many nominations to review, so a clear and simple nomination will receive more attention. If you're unsure how much documentation to include, feel free to ask us for help.
- **Carefully read and follow the instructions.** The Committee looks for complete information and documentation, best practices in the field, and contributions to state and local history. Check your spelling, punctuation, and the logic of your statements. Is your submission clear and well-written? Does your project fit within the specified time frame?
- Use Section 1, the Nomination Narrative, to make your nomination shine. This is where the Committee needs to quickly grasp what your project is about, its impact, how it supports your mission, and how you evaluated its success.
- **Cluster materials together.** If you have a variety of marketing or other materials, group them together in one PDF so that the Committee can move through them with ease.
- If applicable, provide a sheet of URLs related to online content, but do not expect reviewers to only follow them to understand your project. Your descriptions, images, and other documentation should make your project understandable throughout the nomination.
- Provide dynamic photographs and images that give a complete overview of your project or exhibit. Are all the important elements shown? Can we see people engaging with your work? (For technical specifications, see the definition of "Photographs" in <u>Section 5</u> above.)



- Name your attachment files with the section number under which they fall, and what they are (i.e.: "Section 4-Roles and Responsibilities," or "Section 5-section of the nomination form. This will help the Committee navigate them more easily. For example:
  - Section\_1-Nomination Narrative.docx
  - Section\_2-Letter\_of\_Critical\_Review\_Outcome\_and\_Effect.p...
  - Section\_2-Letter\_of\_Critical\_Review\_Scholarship.pdf
  - Section\_3-Budget.pdf
  - Section\_4-Project\_Staffing.pdf
  - Section\_5-Bibliography.pdf
  - Section\_5-Evaluation.pdf
  - Section\_5-Floor Plan\_and\_Object List.pdf
  - Section\_5-Formatted\_Labels.pdf
  - Section\_5-Photographs.pdf
  - Section\_5-Publicity.pdf
  - Section\_5-Video\_Links.pdf
  - Section\_5-Written\_Materials.pdf
  - Section\_6-Letter\_of\_Support.pdf



# **AASLH AWARDS TEAM MEMBERS**

- State Representative: Each U.S. state has one or more representatives who provide information and guidance to nominees. They help ensure all criteria and requirements are met and conduct the first review, giving feedback to the Regional Representative and Awards Committee. They should be your first contact when starting the nomination process. International nominees will be assigned a State or Regional Representative.
- **Regional Representative:** For the AASLH Award of Excellence review, the U.S. is divided into 14 regions, each with a Regional Representative. These representatives offer extra guidance to nominees and work with State Representatives to ensure nominations meet the requirements. Regional Representatives also serve on the Awards Committee.
- Awards Committee: The Awards Committee consists of the 14 Regional Representatives and the National Awards Chair. In May, they review each nomination and decide on the Award of Excellence recipients, with input from AASLH staff. The Committee can also choose the winners of the Albert B. Corey Award and the History in Progress Award from the nominees receiving the Award of Excellence.

We realize that you may still have questions, however, so please feel free to contact your <u>State</u> <u>or Regional Representatives</u>, or the AASLH office by phone or email at (615) 320-3203 or abain@aaslh.org.