



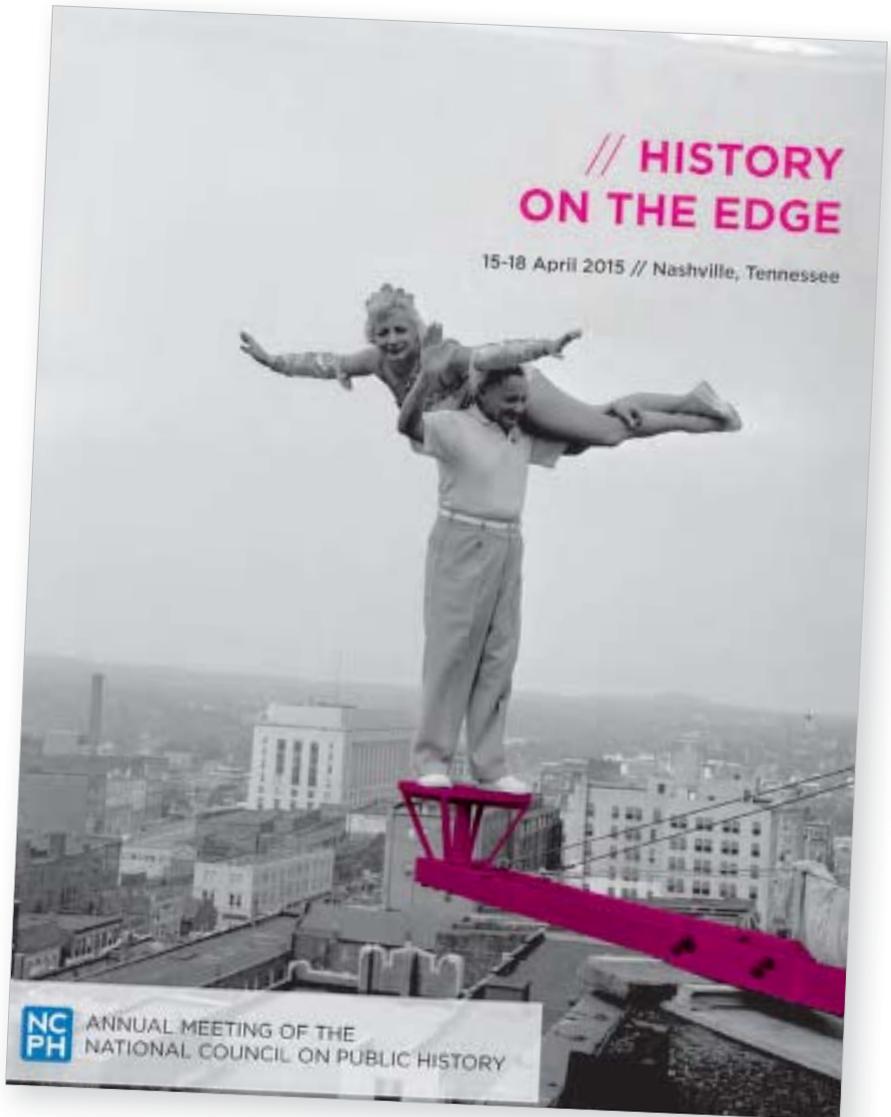
## Horizons, Boundaries, Verges, and Fringes

Modupe Labode, Program Committee co-chair | mlabode@iupui.edu

As the program for the 2015 NCPH Annual Meeting in Nashville reveals, participants have fully embraced the conference theme—“History on the Edge”—and taken it in unexpected directions. In workshops, tours, sessions, and working groups, meeting participants will engage with the many meanings of “edge”: discussing controversial or “edgy” topics; considering the borders of public history; debating what happens in the profession’s national and international borderlands; and exploring how members of the public do history. An exciting aspect of this meeting is the number of participants who define themselves as archaeologists, librarians, or archivists, but, like public historians, share a deep commitment to using the past to engage with communities today.

The theme of edges is continued in the annual meeting’s public plenary and keynote addresses. Friday evening’s public plenary, “Living and Making History: A Public Conversation,” will be a moderated dialogue between Ms. Laurens Grant and Dr. Ernest “Rip” Patton. Laurens Grant began her career as a journalist but is now an award-winning producer and director of documentaries. She produced the 2011 documentary *Freedom Riders*, which was directed by Stanley Nelson. Grant also directed the first full-length documentary about the African American athlete Jesse Owens; in 2013 the film won an Emmy for outstanding research.

For decades, Rip Patton has made connections between the history he helped create and today’s challenges. In 1961, Patton was a student at Tennessee State University when he took part in the Freedom Rides. The Freedom Riders used nonviolent activism to protest racial discrimination on interstate transportation. Patton and other students were expelled for their activism; he was later imprisoned with other civil rights protesters in Mississippi’s notorious Parchman State Prison Farm. Patton has worked as a musician and truck driver, but throughout his life has been committed to



Cover image for 2015 Program, courtesy of the Nashville Public Library, Special Collections.

raising awareness about the civil rights movement. In this public conversation, Rip Patton and Laurens Grant will discuss the role of the Freedom Riders in challenging racial segregation and comment on how they have made and interpreted history. The public plenary will take place in Nashville’s Downtown Presbyterian Church, a historic structure that is also a vital part of the city.

[continued on page 3 →](#)



## Announcing Navigator

A fresh guide to public history programs from the New Professional and Graduate Student Committee.

# Out and About in Nashville

Brenden Martin, Local Arrangements Committee chair | brenden.martin@mtsu.edu

The Local Arrangements Committee has scheduled some great tours to help you to see and experience Nashville. Whether you are interested in country music, civil rights, the early republic, or interpreting controversial sites, we have something for everyone. Here is a small sampling of the tours that the committee has planned.



Courtesy of Nashville Public Library Special Collections.

The Nashville Capitol Building, a National Historic Landmark, is one of the oldest working state capitols in the United States. *The State Capitol Interior and Grounds Tour* will explore architect William Strickland's masterpiece. On the grounds rest the tombs of many of Tennessee's early political leaders. The building and its grounds have been the scene of countless controversies and legislative battles over the course of its 155-year history.

*Heritage Tour*, guests will learn how Nashville transformed itself from the "Athens of the South" to "Music City." On the tour, you will hear the stories of Tom Ryman, the Fisk Jubilee Singers, Johnny Cash, and many others. Tour-goers will also discover how an insurance company laid the foundation for modern day country music and what it's like to go "honky tonkin" on Lower Broad. All this history comes in the form of a guided walking tour that allows visitors to experience the city up close.

Though not well known, Nashville's important role in the Civil Rights Movement is embedded in the landscape. Before victories could be won in Birmingham, Selma, and Atlanta, students from Nashville's historically African American colleges, including Fisk University and Tennessee State University, set their sights on integrating downtown public lunch counters. The protesters were passionate, organized, and well-trained, with strong leadership. After four months of sit-ins, boycotts, and one of the first examples of a successful silent march, they broke the back of public segregation in Nashville. *The Civil Rights Walking Tour* explores this rich history.

These are just three of the tours NCPH Nashville is excited to offer. Other tours focus on crime, the Civil War, African-American history, and more. No matter if your interest is in politics, music, or architecture, there is a tour for you.



Courtesy of Nashville Public Library Special Collections.



Country Music Hall of Fame, Courtesy Nashville CVC.

Nashville is known as Music City, U.S.A., but most people don't realize how it earned its nickname. On the *Music City's Musical*

A screenshot of a Vimeo video player. The video shows a man in a dark suit and glasses standing outdoors in front of green trees. The text "SEE YOU IN 2015" is overlaid in large white letters. The video player interface includes a search bar, navigation icons, and a progress bar. Below the video, the title is "'See You in 2015" NCPH Conference -Nashville" and the uploader is identified as "Jean-Pierre Morin - Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, Canada".

Jean-Pierre Morin is one of the board members featured in NCPH's "Come to Nashville" videos on Vimeo this month.



NCPH inspires public engagement with the past and serves the needs of practitioners in putting history to work in the world by building community among historians, expanding professional skills and tools, fostering critical reflection on historical practice, and publicly advocating for history and historians. *Public History News* is published in March, June, September, and December. NCPH reserves the right to reject material that is not consistent with the goals and purposes of the organization. Individual membership orders, changes of address, and business and editorial correspondence should be addressed to NCPH, 127 Cavanaugh Hall – IU/UI, 425 University Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140. E-mail: [ncph@iuui.edu](mailto:ncph@iuui.edu). Tel: 317-274-2716. Join online or renew at [www.ncph.org](http://www.ncph.org). Headquartered on the campus of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, NCPH is grateful for the generous support of the IU School of Liberal Arts and the Department of History.

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# Horizons, Boundaries, Verges, and Fringes (cont. from page 1)

Dr. Tiya Miles will deliver the keynote address, “Edges, Ledges, and the Limits of Craft: Imagining Historical Scholarship Beyond the Boundaries,” on Saturday morning. Miles is the Elsa Barkley Brown Collegiate Professor of African American Women’s History at the University of Michigan. In 2011, she won a MacArthur Fellowship in recognition of her innovative scholarship on African American and Native American intersectional and comparative histories and narratives. Her book, *The House on Diamond Hill: A Cherokee Plantation Story* (2010), won the 2011 NCPH Book Award. Public history is essential to Miles’ scholarship, as her engagement with Georgia’s Chief Vann House State Historic Site and the “Mapping Slavery in Detroit” project demonstrate. Miles also organized a three-year project called ECO Girls, which encouraged elementary and middle school girls in southeastern Michigan to increase their environmental awareness, build friendships, and develop self-confidence and leadership skills.

Nashville itself provides many opportunities to explore history’s edges. As the Local Arrangements Committee and Program Committee put together the annual meeting, they wanted to encourage attendees to engage with historic and contemporary Central Tennessee through conference sessions, tours, workshops, and casual walks around downtown.



Downtown Presbyterian Church, Nashville Flickr User Rain0975.

For example, all the working groups will meet at Nashville’s downtown Public Library. Be sure to visit the Civil Rights Room, which provides a moving interpretation of civil rights activism in the city. On a less serious note, by all accounts the men’s restroom in the Hermitage Hotel (around the corner from the conference site) is so extraordinary as to defy description.

Nashville is, of course, Music City, but the range of music made and appreciated here is vast. As Rick Clark, music editor for the *Oxford American* writes, few states can match Tennessee’s “deep roots in the blues and jazz, gospel, soul and r&b, rockabilly, rock & roll, and country—or its tremendous concentration of historic record labels and music industry visionaries.” Artists including writers, painters, filmmakers—as well as Nashville’s interest in good food and drink—contribute to the city’s vitality. From conference sessions to Dine Arounds, come to Nashville prepared to explore the edges of public history.

## Welcome New Members!

Timothy Adams Milford, CT	Angela Bruni Venetia, PA	Graduate History Director Pittsburgh, PA	Dallas Hanbury Murfreesboro, TN	Kevin Kelly Pensacola, FL	Alexandra McKinney Pensacola, FL	Meredith Peruzzi Vienna, VA	Megan Scallan Melvin Duxbury, MA	John Tosh London, United Kingdom
Heather Adkins Nashville, TN	Jacob Burress Louisville, KY	Davis Duffey Winder, GA	John Hancock Pace, FL	Mills Kelly Fairfax, VA	Jared McNeely Nacogdoches, TX	Susan Philpott Gaithersburg, MD	Annette Scherber Clear Lake, IA	Tara Travis Cortez, CO
Judy Alderman Varnell, GA	Jayd Buteaux Wilmington, NC	Joshua Edmundson Palm Springs, CA	Chelsea Hansen Washington, DC	Ari Kelman State College, PA	Megan Miller Newtown Square, PA	Jessica Pickett Pensacola, FL	Kelly Schmidt Chicago, IL	John Troutman Lafayette, LA
Katherine Anderson Sacramento, CA	Tamar Cachet London, ON Canada	Tim Edwards Newton, NJ	David Harper Sacramento, CA	Mary Margaret Kerr Pittsburgh, PA	Brad Miller Murfreesboro, TN	Sara Polak Leiden, Netherlands	Robyn Schroeder Providence, RI	Kenneth Turino Boston, MA
Amber Annis St Paul, MN	Sarah Calise Murfreesboro, TN	W. Eric Emerson Columbia, SC	Patricia Hauth Lafayette, LA	Karissa Kessen Rochelle, IL	Jacob Miller Clearfield, PA	Angela Potter Lafayette, IN	Catherine Schultz Takoma Park, MD	Sharron Uher Shawnee, KS
Megan Asaka Los Angeles, CA	Jane Campbell Columbia, SC	Brian Failing Lisle, IL	Meghan Hillman Indianapolis, IN	Laura Kintz East Weymouth, MA	Rose Miron Minneapolis, MN	Margaret Powell Elkins Park, PA	Susan Schultz Spokane Valley, WA	Moriah Ulinskaz San Francisco, CA
Sarah Atwood St. Paul, MN	Braden Catt Indianapolis, IN	Scott Fenn Chelmsford, United Kingdom	Paul Hirt Tempe, AZ	Abigail Kirstein Bethel Park, PA	Amber Mitchell Indianapolis, IN	Richard Primuth Villa Rica, GA	Natalie Sherif Amherst, MA	Lauren Van Zandt Pittsburgh, PA
Lauren Ayers Pasadena, MD	Andrew Clinard Middletown, OH	Marianne Holdzkom Acworth, GA	Marianne Holdzkom Acworth, GA	Barbara Krasner Somerset, NJ	Andrew Monson Dexter, MI	Teresa Prober Bumpus Mills, TN	Donna Sinclair Washougal, WA	Shamikah White Savannah, GA
Elizabeth Bacon Sutton, MA	Elon Cook Providence, RI	Larissa Fergeson Farmville, VA	Jenny Holly Williamsburg, VA	Crystal Kuthanek Greensboro, NC	Joan Moore Pensacola, FL	Jennifer Quier Nashville, TN	Brian Sirman Boston, MA	Melissa Wiedenfeld Warrenton, OR
Daniel Baggott Pewaukee, WI	Kami Fletcher Pikesville, MD	Justin Holzner Albany, NY	Justin Holzner Albany, NY	Zachary Laczko Pace, FL	Jennifer Moses Philadelphia, PA	Lila Rakoczy Huntsville, TX	Kathryn Slover Murfreesboro, TN	James Wils Raleigh, NC
Tiffany Baker Tallahassee, FL	Adam Foreman Delcambre, LA	Ella Howard Savannah, GA	Ella Howard Savannah, GA	Kate Landdeck Denton, TX	Elizabeth Neucere Huntsville, TX	Sommer Reed Pensacola, FL	Ian Smith Missoula, MT	Leon Worden Santa Clarita, CA
Jenny Barker-Devine Jacksonville, IL	Barbara Franco Gettysburg, PA	Christianna Huber Atlanta, GA	Christianna Huber Atlanta, GA	Michelle Lawson Annandale, VA	Tracy Neumann Ferndale, MI	Michelle Richoll Lutz, FL	Lyndsay Smith Portland, OR	James Wyatt Shepherdstown, WV
Elyse Bennett Greenboro, NC	Robert Franklin Pullman, WA	Linda Lerch Pittsburgh, PA	Linda Lerch Pittsburgh, PA	Melanie O'Brien Montgomery Village, MD	Paul Ringel Greensboro, NC	Paul Ringel Greensboro, NC	Kate Sproul Nashville, TN	Grace Yeh San Luis Obispo, CA
Kyle Bjornson Columbia, SC	John Fretham Decorah, IA	Maria Alicia Hungerford Spokane, WA	Maria Alicia Hungerford Spokane, WA	Hannah O'Daniel Louisville, KY	Kyle Roberts Chicago, IL	Kyle Roberts Chicago, IL	Julia Stetler Laramie, WY	Kate Zankowicz Los Angeles, CA
George Boan Boone, NC	Jacquelyn George Lodi, CA	Katie Hutto Nacogdoches, TX	Katie Hutto Nacogdoches, TX	Brian Odom Madison, AL	Kasey Ross Imler, PA	Kasey Ross Imler, PA	David Strohmaier Missoula, MT	Rosemary Zlokas Pittsburgh, PA
Donelle Boose Washington, DC	Jennifer Giambrone Washington, DC	Megan Mackey Star, ID	Megan Mackey Star, ID	Margarete Ordon Helena, MT	Jordan Rossi Greensboro, NC	Jordan Rossi Greensboro, NC	Austin Sullivan Stafford Springs, CT	NCPH would like to extend a special thanks to our new Patron and Partner members:
Lydia Brandt Columbia, SC	Chelsea Grayburn Columbia, SC	Antoinette Jackson Tampa, FL	Antoinette Jackson Tampa, FL	Stephen Oswald Pensacola, FL	Rebekkah Rubin Madison, WI	Rebekkah Rubin Madison, WI	Jessie Swigger Cullowhee, NC	California State University, San Bernardino (Patron)
Virginia Brown Lawrenceville, VA	Patrick Grossi Philadelphia, PA	Alex Jebbia Morgantown, WV	Alex Jebbia Morgantown, WV	Brandi Oswald Findlay, OH	Alissa Rubinstein Berlin, Germany	Alissa Rubinstein Berlin, Germany	Jennifer Taylor Columbia, SC	San Bernardino, CA
Leah Brown Charles City, VA	Jennifer Guiliano Indianapolis, IN	Krystal Johnson Pace, FL	Krystal Johnson Pace, FL	Rebecca Pattillo Indianapolis, IN	Johanna Russ Chicago, IL	Johanna Russ Chicago, IL	Pamela Temple Nacogdoches, TX	San Bernardino, CA
Terry Brown Boston, MA	Carrie Hadley Pittsburgh, PA	Jamie Jones Las Cruces, NM	Jamie Jones Las Cruces, NM	Bret Pearson Minneapolis, MN	Eric Sainio Eads, CO	Eric Sainio Eads, CO	Jennifer Thornton Riverside, CA	The Hermitage (Partner)
Kathryn Brunetta Greensburg, PA	Kathryn Hahn Scottsdale, AZ	Frances Jones-Sneed North Adams, MA	Frances Jones-Sneed North Adams, MA	Abigail Perakis Philadelphia, PA	Allan Jason Sarmiento West Sacramento, CA	Allan Jason Sarmiento West Sacramento, CA	Mandy Tompkins Richmond, VA	Hermitage, TN

# President's Comments



Patrick Moore  
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## Welcome to Music City!

This conference marks our 37<sup>th</sup> meeting, and it is a beautiful time of year for our members, from nascent public historians to seasoned founders, to come together in the Athens of the South. Embodying our conference theme, *History on the Edge*, Nashville is an ideal location that exemplifies a rich heritage of music, culture, and cuisine.



The Hermitage: Home of President Andrew Jackson, Courtesy Nashville CVC.

While the meeting is the primary attraction, experiencing the essence of this remarkable city is equally important. Brenden Martin and his Local Arrangements Committee have assembled an impressive collection of tours and offsite workshops that will provide you with an insider's view of the city that is as valuable as the conference itself. I know that many of us travel to these fantastic destinations and never really venture away from the conference. Following the *On the Edge* theme, challenge yourself to try something different and sign up for a tour. For some set in your ways, this might seem like an impossibility, but if you consider that Elvis Presley—who recorded more than 200 songs right here in Nashville—was 37 when he recorded *The Impossible Dream*, anything seems achievable. (Additionally, for those of you who coordinate every minute of your meeting and dining schedule with friends and colleagues, Elvis also recorded *Separate Ways* when he was 37...).



Ryman Auditorium, Courtesy Nashville CVC.

For many of us, this is the one time of year when we surround ourselves with longtime friends, colleagues, and fellow public historians who speak the same language and value the same goals. Challenge yourself to engage with those who are fresh to our organization. For those who are new (and in particular those in graduate programs who often cluster with fellow students for protection), take a leap of faith off the edge and strike up a conversation with pretty much anyone wearing a badge. Heck, back in 1967 in Nashville, Jack Green became the Country Music Association's first Male Entertainer of the Year (at the ripe ol' age of 37 no less). There has to be a first time for everything, and you never know what might happen.



The District, Courtesy Nashville CVC.

In respect to the meeting itself, our 37<sup>th</sup> year set new benchmarks for submissions. A special thanks to our Program Committee co-chairs, Modupe Labode and Jim Gardner, and to the entire committee, for the monumental task of processing these proposals and assembling a fantastic

collection of sessions, workshops, and working groups. For those of you who rarely make it to a session, now might be the perfect time to discover the incredible things our members are doing. Like native Tennessean Davy Crockett, who, at 37, clobbered his political nemesis Andrew Jackson's nephew-in-law in a race for the Tennessee General Assembly, smaller things elsewhere can start trends that lead to major changes. Talk about *History on the Edge*!

Finally, a huge show of gratitude to the tireless NCPH professional staff and volunteers who brought this meeting together. Each year, they do so much, and when it goes brilliantly, we hardly even realize everything they have accomplished, "like islands in the stream" (which coincidentally, was what Nashville recording artist Dolly Parton was singing with Kenny Rogers when she was 37).



Robert's Western Bar, Courtesy Nashville CVC.

So, throughout this meeting, I encourage everyone to reflect on what *history on the edge* means. Challenge yourself to do something new. After all, at 37 years of age, minister and civil rights activist Kelly Smith really went out on the edge and, after taking leadership of the local NAACP, organized sit-ins to break the legacy of segregation in Nashville. Although our challenges may pale by comparison, public history has always been at the edge of historical practice. Embracing what marks us as distinctive, both in our practice and our products, we look to the future and continue to make our organization great.

# Actions of the NCPH Board of Directors

On Friday and Saturday, September 19-20, 2014, the NCPH Board of Directors convened during the annual meeting of the American Association for State and Local History in St. Paul, Minnesota, and took the following actions:

- Voted to adopt, with minor amendments, the 2015 Operating Budget proposed by the executive office and the Finance Committee.
- Voted to adopt the Finance Committee's proposal to narrow the ranges set in the "Asset Mix" in the NCPH's Investment Policy so that it now reads: "65% Equity securities (Common Stock), 30% Fixed-income securities (US & corporate bonds), and 5% Short-term securities (Cash/1-year notes)."
- Discussed possible annual meeting sites for 2018 that are in the West.
- Discussed the plan to meet jointly with the Organization of American Historians in 2019 in the East and decided to propose that both associations work together to create a shared vision for the meeting that accommodates the public history profession's growth.
- Approved the plan to update and possibly merge the NCPH and Public History Commons websites and move to a new server.
- Voted to seek an extension of two years for the memorandum of agreement with University Amsterdam to provide two international consulting editors for *The Public Historian*.
- Voted to approve the proposed draft memorandum of agreement with University of California Press and the University of California Santa Barbara for publishing *The Public Historian*, contingent on the answers to a final round of questions to the press.
- Voted to change Sections 5.02, 6.02, and 5.06 of the NCPH Bylaws to make elections for the Secretary-Treasurer uncontested, to allow the Secretary-Treasurer to run for a second term, to allow the Secretary-Treasurer to designate another person chair the Finance Committee.
- Endorsed the New Professional and Graduate Student Committee's proposed publication, "The Public History Navigator: How to Choose and Thrive in a Public History Program," and offered hearty congratulations on a job well done.
- Endorsed the idea of a resume workshop to be developed for the Nashville conference by the Membership Committee and potentially offered as a year-round review service for members.
- Reviewed the white paper of the Task Force on Sustainability and agreed to work with the task force to prioritize a set of actions for the organization.
- Voted to create a Task Force on Diversity to be led by Secretary-Treasurer Kristine Navarro-McElhaneay and including board members Jill Titus, Kathleen Franz, Mary Rizzo, and Denise Meringolo as well as former board member Brian Joyner. The board also decided that efforts to increase racial/ethnic diversity should be built into the 2016 Annual Meeting in Baltimore.
- Voted to endorse in concept the History Relevance Campaign's call to action statement, "The Value of History," which outlines seven ways history is relevant: "History nurtures personal identity in an intercultural world; History teaches critical 21st century skills and independent thinking; History lays the groundwork for strong, resilient communities; History is a catalyst for economic growth; History helps people craft better solutions; History inspires local and global leaders; and History, saved and preserved, is the foundation for future generations." See page 6 for full statement.
- Began discussing plans for a strategic planning retreat next fall.

## Candidates for the 2015 NCPH Election

Full candidate info at <http://bit.ly/NCPH2015slate>

Current Board and Committee members are listed at <http://bit.ly/NCPHgovernance>

### Secretary-Treasurer (one candidate)

Kristine Navarro-McElhaneay, University of Texas at El Paso

### Board of Directors (five candidates for three positions)

Kristin Ahlberg, U.S. Department of State

Melissa Bingmann, West Virginia University

Andreas Etges, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

Jeff Pappas, New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office

Morgen Young Alder, LLC

### Nominating Committee (four candidates for two positions)

Laurie Arnold, Gonzaga University

Alicia Barber, Professional Historian and Consultant, Reno, Nevada

Stephanie George, California State University, Fullerton

Nicole Moore, Independent Consultant

*Ballots and candidate biographical information were distributed by email to members beginning November 17. Please contact [neph@iupui.edu](mailto:neph@iupui.edu) if you are a member and did not receive an electronic ballot. The election closes January 15, 2015. Your vote counts!*



Image from Wikimedia Commons courtesy of the Harry S. Truman Library.

The History Relevance Campaign is an informal group of history professionals which has issued the following Call to Action, an effort to catalyze conversations about the central role of history in modern life. Join the discussion at <http://bit.ly/HRC-LinkedIn>.

# The Value of History

## Seven Ways It is Relevant

We believe that history — both knowledge of the past and the practice of researching and making sense of what happened in the past — is crucially important to the wellbeing of individuals, communities, and the future of our nation.

### Our Selves

1. **IDENTITY** – *History nurtures personal identity in an intercultural world.*

History enables people to discover their own place in the stories of their families, communities, and nation. They learn the stories of the many individuals and groups that have come before them and shaped the world in which they live. There are stories of freedom and equality, injustice and struggle, loss and achievement, and courage and triumph. Through these varied stories, they create systems of personal values that guide their approach to life and relationships with others.

2. **CRITICAL SKILLS** – *History teaches critical 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and independent thinking.*

The practice of history teaches research, judgment of the accuracy and reliability of sources, validation of facts, awareness of multiple perspectives and biases, analysis of conflicting evidence, sequencing to discern causes, synthesis to present a coherent interpretation, clear and persuasive written and oral communication, and other skills that have been identified as critical to a successful and productive life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### Our Communities

3. **VITAL PLACES TO LIVE AND WORK** – *History lays the groundwork for strong, resilient communities.*

No place really becomes a community until it is wrapped in human memory: family stories, tribal traditions, civic commemorations. No place is a community until it has awareness of its history. Our connections and commitment to one another are strengthened when we share stories and experiences.

4. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** – *History is a catalyst for economic growth.*

People are drawn to communities that have preserved a strong sense of historical identity and character. Cultural heritage

is a demonstrated economic asset and an essential component of any vibrant local economy, providing an infrastructure that attracts talent and enhances business development.

### Our Future

5. **ENGAGED CITIZENS** – *History helps people craft better solutions.*

At the heart of democracy is the practice of individuals coming together to express views and take action. By bringing history into discussions about contemporary issues, we can better understand the origins of and multiple perspectives on the challenges facing our communities and nation. This can clarify misperceptions, reveal complexities, temper volatile viewpoints, open people to new possibilities, and lead to more effective solutions for today's challenges.

6. **LEADERSHIP** – *History inspires local and global leaders.*

History provides leaders with inspiration and role models for meeting the complex challenges that face our communities, nation, and the world. It may be a parent, grandparent or distant ancestor, a local or national hero, or someone famous or someone little known. Their stories reveal how they met the challenges of their day, which can give new leaders the courage and wisdom to confront the challenges of our time.

7. **LEGACY** – *History, saved and preserved, is the foundation for future generations.*

History is crucial to preserving democracy for the future by explaining our shared past. Through the preservation of authentic, meaningful places, documents, artifacts, images, and stories, we leave a foundation upon which future Americans can build. Without the preservation of our histories, future citizens will have

## Call to Action

We call on organizations to endorse, share, and use this statement on the value of history in contemporary life. With common agreement, commitment, and open conversation about why history is important, we believe the historical community can change the common perception that history is nice, but not essential.

Endorsing this statement in principle is an initial step. We encourage you to adapt and incorporate these ideas into projects, training materials, mission statements, websites, marketing materials, and other institutional outlets. The seven core ideas are not new, but we believe that their articulation with the intent to make real, measurable change across the profession and into public realms represents a fresh start for our discipline.

The History Relevance Campaign is a group of history professionals posing questions about what makes history relevant today. The group came together in early 2013 and has held meetings, sessions, and open forums to formulate these seven principles at the American Alliance of Museums (2013), National Council on Public History (2013 and 2014), National History Day (2013), American Association for State and Local History (2013 and 2014), Idaho Heritage Conference (2013), American Historical Association (2014), New Jersey History and Historic Preservation Conference (2014), State Historical Administrators Meeting (2013), and the Smithsonian Affiliates Conference (2014). We thank the many conference session attendees who provided the ideas behind and wording for the seven values. These values also find expression in a framework being developed by the State Historical Administrators Meeting.

no grounding in what it means to be an American.

We who endorse these principles are committed to history, to seeing history play a greater role in our educational systems, in our communities, in our nation, and in the lives of our fellow citizens. We are committed to helping the entire history field make the move from nice to necessary.

We call on organizations to endorse, share, and use this statement on the value of history in contemporary life.

## Annual Meeting Dates to Remember

December 2014 – Call for student volunteers issued.  
January 2, 2015 – Deadline to reserve space in the Exhibit Hall.  
January 20 – Working Group case statements due.  
January 20 – Dine Around topic proposals due.  
February 1 – Deadline to reserve event for sponsorship.  
February 11 – Conference mentor requests due.  
Student volunteer applications due.  
March 4 – Early registration deadline.  
March 15 – Cut-off dates to reserve discounted rooms at Sheraton Nashville Downtown  
April 1 – Pre-registration deadline.  
April 15-18 – The 37th Annual Meeting opens at 8:00 am, Sheraton Nashville Downtown.

# International Federation for Public History

More than 160 people converged on the University of Amsterdam for the inaugural annual meeting of the IFPH last month, "Public History in a Digital World – The Revolution Reconsidered." The IFPH

Steering Committee and the NCPH Board are discussing the possibility of a joint summer meeting outside of the United States, and meanwhile the IFPH is planning its next conference which will be in Jinan, China next

fall. In 2016 the IFPH is headed for Bogota, Colombia. Now is the time to get involved in this dynamic new organization. <http://ifph.hypotheses.org/>



Images on left, courtesy of Serge Noiret; images in center and on right, courtesy of John Dichtl.

HISTORY supports the **NCPH** for promoting the value and significance of history every day.



