

## Bridging is Possible Finding the Interweaves of Civil War History in Black History

Michelle Lanier | michelle.lanier@gmail.com

The sesquicentennial of the American Civil War approaches with the urgency of a barreling train. For me, the descendant of the enslaved and the slaver, the Union soldier and Confederate officer (1), the beckoning of Civil War memory is a whistle-blow of human frailty and freedom. The insistence of the oncoming commemoration is also the persistent *chug* of hope, of loss, and of redemption. Somehow, for me, the Civil War has become personal. And as one called into the field of public history in a state that holds many of the conflict's bullets and bones, I am compelled to draw others into a deeper awareness of this war's roots and its lingering, and at times cloying, residues.

What draws me to this place is the challenge of making Civil War history relevant to African American audiences. Why would the conflict, which helped to challenge previously held notions of African American inhumanity, need to be "made" relevant to the progeny of one of the most significant populations in the war's development and denouement? Of course, it is not that this history is irrelevant to African Americans, but there have been too few bridges between the contemporary memory of

the conflict and the actual reality of the African American impact on and participation in the Civil War.

Bridging is possible, though, and this I know viscerally and experientially through my own journey into the homefronts and battlefields between 1861 and 1865. Or as some of us would have it, between John Brown's Raid and the departure of the last Reconstruction-Era, black Congressman (1859-1901).

I grew up in Columbia, South Carolina, at a time when the Confederate battle flag topped

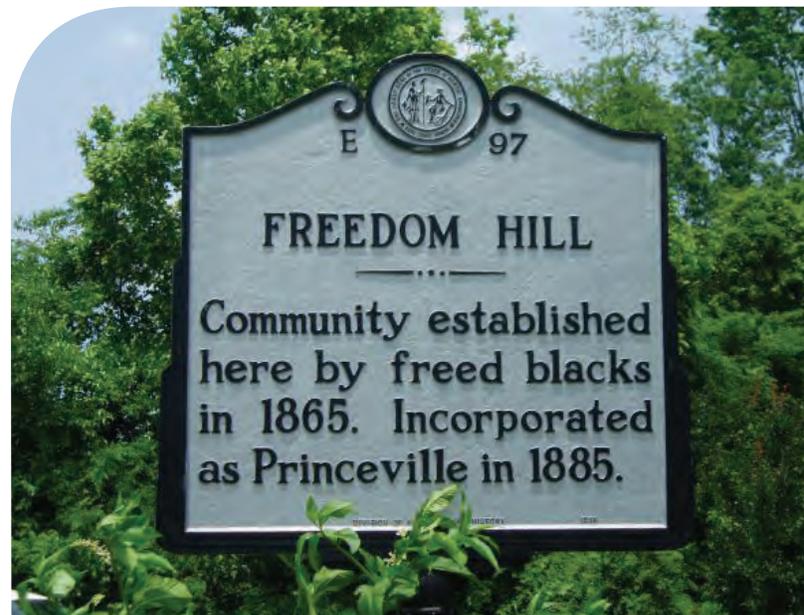
the dome of the Capitol building. In neighborhoods, on trucks, in schoolyards, on T-shirts; this flag festooned the margins of a childhood nurtured in the heart of a thriving black community. I was told by my black relatives to stay away from gas stations and people who displayed

"the flag." The antics of many—antics involving racial slurs, intimidation, and violence—supported familial warnings, and the Confederate battle flag became, for me, a symbol of white supremacy *and* the Civil War. Until very recently, if anyone mentioned the phrase "Civil War," I thought of only "racism," "violence," and "fear."

For many this continues to be the case. I have spoken with professors who wonder if black students will be safe when visiting historic sites that feature Civil War history and fly Confederate flags. This is one residue of Civil War memory, but it is not the only one. There are other legacies, such as the legacy of William Henry Singleton. Singleton was told by U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel Robert Leggett, "We never will take niggers in the army to fight." Singleton responded by raising a thousand "colored" men for the cause. He wrote, ". . . they appointed me as colonel and I drilled them with cornstalks for guns." After the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, Singleton was enlisted as Sergeant of



Mary Jane Connor, a former slave, operated a boardinghouse in New Bern after the town's capture by the Union army in 1862. A Federal soldier called her "about the most remarkable colored woman I ever saw." Image courtesy of Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens, New Bern, North Carolina.



"Freedom Hill," Highway Historical Marker. Image courtesy of North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Program, Office of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

[continued on page 11 →](#)

### Is This Your Newsletter?

Let us know what you think about this issue of *Public History News* with an email to [ncph@iupui.edu](mailto:ncph@iupui.edu). Editorial, design, and other ideas—large or small—are welcome. We also encourage submissions of articles, announcements, and opinion pieces.

# Providence — 2009 Annual Meeting



NCPH President Marianne Babal (right) talking with attendees at Thursday's opening reception.



Audience listening to Richard Gutman talk about the history of Diners.



NCPH Vice President Marty Blatt with Local Arrangements Chair Steven Lubar and Program Committee Chair Melissa Bingmann.



Graduate students and board members mingling at the opening reception.



Public Plenary speaker, Jill Lepore.



Endowment Fundraiser at Tazza Cafe.



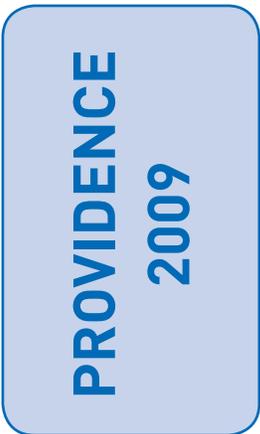
Public History Educator Breakfast.



Jill Ogline Titus introducing NCPH founding members, Arnita Jones, Phil Cantelon, and G. Wesley Johnson.



Poster Session.



NCPH staff (from left) Angenita Childs, Steve Christopherson, John Dichtl, and Sarah Koepfel.



Sunday's capstone plenary.

# Inside This Issue

A Quarterly Publication of the  
National Council on Public History

5  
2009 Award Winners

7  
President's Comments

8  
Committees on the Go

9  
From the Director's Desk

18  
National Coalition on History Update



Printed on 50% recycled paper  
(25% post-consumer waste)

**Marianne Babal**  
President

**Martin Blatt**  
Vice President

**Bill Bryans**  
Past President

**Patrick Moore**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**John Dichtl**  
Executive Director

## It "Forces One to Think More Broadly" Evaluation Results of the 2009 Annual Meeting

Sarah Koeppel | syounger@iupui.edu

What a way to kick off NCPH's 30th anniversary celebration. The NCPH Annual Meeting in Providence, RI, at the beginning of April had an organizational record-breaking attendance of 603 public history practitioners. Even though the elevators were slow and the conference rooms drifted from frigid to sweltry, the Providence Biltmore was abuzz with new connections, engrossing conversations, and a general excitement about the field and its future. Two hundred and thirty five attendees shared with us their thoughts and ideas on the meeting evaluation. Selected data from registration records as well as data and summaries from the post-meeting evaluation forms are presented below.

### Registration and Attendance

- Of 603 participants, 40% were non-members (compared to 34% last year).
- 206 students participated, making up 34% of all attendees (compared to 28% last year).

- Of the respondents to the evaluation survey, 50% reported that this was their first NCPH meeting.

### Sessions

- More than 107 individual, panel, roundtable, workshop, working group, and poster proposals were submitted to the Program Committee. The committee solicited numerous additional sessions and working groups.
- In the end, 54 sessions became a part of the program, involving 206 presenters. (43 sessions last year)
- Average attendance at each regular session counted was 25 people. (24 last year)
- Evaluation survey results show that 86% of respondents attended three or more sessions and 50% attended five or more. (89% and 49% last year)

### Below is a sampling of suggestions for future sessions from participants:

- 97% of the evaluation participants either agreed (30%) or strongly agreed (67%) that session content was appropriate and informative. Below is a sampling of suggestions for future sessions from participants:
- *Need more time for discussion.* • *I would have liked more technical details of digitization....* • *More international sessions.* • *Like to see sessions on creating and evaluating internships.* • *Sessions on building a successful consulting practice.* • *Need more digital workshops—focus on trends.* • *Offer sessions/workshops on museum management/ historical administration, i.e. marketing, management, fundraising, grant writing etc.* • *Interpretive methods, exhibits, and other trends to keep students updated.* • *A session on ethics in practice would be worthwhile.* • *A workshop on conducting oral histories.*

### Liked Most about the Conference

- *Seeing and refreshing acquaintances with old colleagues as well as meeting new ones and getting a dose of professional energy that derives from exposure to new work in the field.* • *NCPH stands out for the extent to which it is a welcoming and encouraging conference for students to attend.* • *Always great sessions, high quality presentations, excellent topics and concrete case studies that I can take straight back to my program and teaching. Friendly people and very easy to network. Generally good value on meals -- Friday night dinner was superb.* • *Anything that highlighted interdisciplinary work, like how arts and public history intersect* • *As my first conference, I found it friendly and manageable. ...My experience makes me really want to present next year.* • *Coming away with new ideas and energy. I also love the diversity of people there and their wonderful minds.* • *Diversity of sessions, networking, many opportunities to meet new people, opportunities to express ideas about NCPH directly to NCPH board members/ committees.* • *For me, the sense of community was incredible. This was my first conference, but I really felt as if I belonged to something bigger. I was*

continued on page 4 →



## THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HISTORY

Given the essential value of historical understanding, the National Council on Public History promotes professionalism among history practitioners and their engagement with the public. *Public History News* is published in March, June, September, and December. Individual membership orders, changes of address, and business and editorial correspondence should be addressed to National Council on Public History, 327 Cavanaugh Hall – IUPUI, 425 University Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140. E-mail: [nph@iupui.edu](mailto:nph@iupui.edu). Tel: 317-274-2716. New members are welcome. Join online or renew at [www.ncph.org](http://www.ncph.org). Institutional subscription orders, changes of address, and business correspondence should be addressed to Journals and Digital Publishing Division, University of California Press, 2000 Center St., Ste. 303, Berkeley, CA 94704-1223. Or visit [www.ucpress.edu](http://www.ucpress.edu). We welcome submissions to *Public History News* sent to John Dichtl, Editor, at the above address. Articles are 400-800 words in length; announcements and bulletin items are up to 75 words. NCPH reserves the right to reject material that is not consistent with the goals and purposes of the organization. Headquartered on the campus of Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, NCPH benefits greatly from the generous support of the IU School of Liberal Arts.

# "It 'Forces One to Think More Broadly'"

## Evaluation Results of the 2009 Annual Meeting (from page 3)

also very, very lucky to be paired with an incredible mentor who did as much for me as should could. She gave me a real sense of the field, introduced me to tons of people, and was clearly very honestly interested in helping me with my professional development.

- Good sessions spilled over to coffee breaks; much opportunity to carry conversations.
- Attended a dine around that was a highlight-- good group with some serious but fun discussion. by then, we were ready to play a bit....
- I like the fact that this conference is focused on issues which are of serious concern to practicing historians... \*NCPH manages to mix significant intellectual content with a casual and welcoming social atmosphere. It is a fun meeting and learning experience and it is obvious why so many folks are deeply loyal. I especially like the welcome extended to graduate students -- I was one 50 years ago and wish I had such an opportunity.
- I liked the speed networking and the variety of topics presented. I went to everything from Queer Histories to the Digital Toolbox.
- I really enjoy the

professional development opportunities and networking for public history educators. The discussions are always creative, vibrant, and useful! This is the one conference that allows me to share information and build my understanding or teaching public history and to explore the boundaries between public history (philosophically, speaking) and the wider profession.

- I thought the consultant's session and accompanying reception was a great idea-- it gives people a chance to continue conversations and connect after the session before everyone disperses.
- I was very impressed with the quality of the presentations. I give high marks to the individuals that provide distinctive and informative discussions.
- NCPH continues to probe the larger issues that historians and practitioners encounter. There are robust discussions and a great willingness to engage by the participants. The topics and discussions forces one to think more broadly, to see the world through a more open approach. Very refreshing.
- Outreach to graduate students. It is absolutely amazing how excited NCPH is to include graduate students and create events targeted directly to us. I attended the AAM conference while an undergraduate, and they had almost no events or sessions geared toward students. Keep it up!
- That the conference exists - was the greatest awakening for me and that the academic appreciation for teaching public history is there and that this group and others involved in teaching public history are working to improve education for those who work in public history.
- The consistent friendliness of the NCPH and its members is amazing. I am new to the organization and it has quickly become my favorite professional organization.
- First-time attendee and was floored by the great time I had and the friendliness of attendees. My enthusiasm for public history was reenergized thanks to the conference. I can't wait for Portland and plan to bring colleagues with me.
- The conference mentor program was fantastic! As a first-time conference-goer, it was great to be matched up with a young professional a little further along in her career. We had a lot of common interests and enjoyed attending sessions and the Thursday evening reception and plenary address together!
- Also having the meeting in the hotel where people were staying and the close quarters of the area made it very easy to run into other participants and make more connections.
- Extraordinarily polished logistics really contributed to ease of participation. Great project/poster session.

### Liked Least about the Conference

- Being an undergraduate student, I found that I was being overlooked or dismissed by others. I did not get to make as many connections as I would have liked and felt a bit out of place. The other students that I came with seemed to feel the same way and we mostly kept to our small group.
- Can we find a way to have more food at the opening reception? I would gladly pay more money to have a meal that first day after traveling and trying to get my bearings.
- Dinners were too expensive, so we didn't go to any; Also I didn't like that I had to miss certain field trips and sessions that I really wanted to go to because there were time conflicts.
- Fix the overlapping times in sessions

and strange start/end times that are out of step with other sessions. Fundraiser was a bit disappointing. I thought I might get dinner and was looking forward to the Children's museum.

- How early the educator's breakfast was -- perhaps an educator's lunch? Also, I know some of my grad students had trouble getting mentors
- I am concerned that I did not hear more frank discussion of the perils of training students for a field where there are diminishing #s of jobs. I think public history might want to shift focus and speak more explicitly about training ph audience members.
- I had little interest in most of the sessions offered, and the one that I really wanted to see was completely filled up and out the door to the session room by ten minutes til start time. I tried to stand outside and listen but I couldn't hear anything so I missed it.
- I thought the book tables were pretty disappointing. Too many obscure exhibits of regional extraction, and way too few vendors selling the main texts (in print) in public history. It would have been nice to contract with book seller that could have gathered about 100 or more titles from diverse publishers that would have enabled people to buy books that were actually being discussed in sessions.
- Ironically, there seemed to be a bit of over-fixation on grad. students. I like the idea of including young people & newcomers to the field, but we shouldn't forget about those who graduated last

"Fix...."

"Ironically...."

"Although...."

"Too few...."

year or the year before! The conference seemed relatively oblivious to the dire economic situation beyond academia.

- It seemed as though the sessions focused on methodological and

professional issues. It would have been nice to have more sessions that focused on history, which is what we all have in common.

- Although the hotel itself is a lovely place and the reception rooms were beautiful, the exhibit area was rather hard to navigate and the session rooms were terrible. The session room seating was arranged poorly, there was not enough seating, doors did not open and close properly, it was either too hot or cold, etc. The lines at the elevator were crazy and could have been dangerous if there had been a fire. I realized at one point that I did not know where the exits or stairs were.
- More than any other NCPH conference I have attended, this one offered too many options for my comfort. I always had the feeling I was missing out on something. ... As for the tours, I prefer having all the tours on the same day so we don't have to choose them instead of sessions.
- Some of the sessions (Digital Projects Showcase) were too long and crowded, and resulted in presenters having to rush through their projects for an un-engaged audience. These would have been better if broken into smaller, more manageable and interactive sessions. Also, technology issues seemed to be a big problem in several sessions, which was surprising for a conference on public history.
- The incessant talk of generational divides and of public history/academic history splits
- The traditional session style - with

continued on page 17 →

## Thank You Again 2009 Annual Meeting Sponsors!

- American Association for State and Local History
- Central Connecticut State University
- Christopher S. Clarke
- First Unitarian Church of Providence
- Gray & Pape, Inc.
- Harriet Beecher Stowe Center
- Historical Research Associates, Inc.
- Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis
- John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor
- John Nicholas Brown Center for Public Humanities and Cultural Heritage, Brown University
- Johnson & Wales Culinary Museum
- Littlefield Historical Research
- Mashantucket Pequot Museum
- Middle Tennessee State University
- Mystic Seaport
- Museum and the Web Conference
- National Collaborative for Women's History Sites
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park
- New Bedford Whaling Museum
- New England Museum Association
- New Mexico State University
- Newport Restoration Foundation
- Organization of American Historians
- Preserve Rhode Island
- Providence Children's Museum
- Rhode Island Foundation
- Rhode Island Historical Society
- The Steelyard
- University of California Press
- University of Massachusetts Amherst
- University of South Carolina
- William F. Willingham

If your organization, company, department, or institution is interested in advertising, exhibiting, or event sponsorship at the 2010 Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon, please contact us at (317) 274-2716 or [ncp@iupui.edu](mailto:ncp@iupui.edu).

# Congratulations Award Winners!

## Outstanding Public History Project Award



NCPH Vice President Marty Blatt (third from left) and "Baltimore '68" project team Tom Hollowak, Betsy Nix, Jessica Elfenbein, Kimberley Lynne, and Christina Ralls. Image courtesy of Patrick Moore.

**Baltimore '68: Riots and Rebirth** received plaudits for the public dialogue about events that occurred in recent history, commitment to public meetings, and art component. Judges congratulate the University of Baltimore for partnering with community groups and for stepping into the breach left by lamentable closures of several public history organizations.



The New Mexico Digital History Project

## The New Mexico Digital History Project

likewise deserves recognition for the passion of its organizers and the sheer number of historical documents and artifacts that it makes available to a wide audience. The participants have persisted to maintain and improve the site over several years and have created an inviting place for visitors to explore the state's history. Congratulations to the New Mexico Office of the State Historian.

## Honorable Mention

**Kentucky's Abraham Lincoln**  
The Kentucky Historical Society

**Blue vs. Gray: The Civil War in the Pacific Northwest**

The Museum of History and Industry

## NCPH Book Award



**Chip Colwell-Chanthaphonh, *Massacre at Camp Grant: Forgetting and Remembering Apache History*** (The University of Arizona Press, 2007) *Massacre at Camp Grant* studies a single bloody event in the context of

a broader exploration of the intersections of memory, history, and power. Chip Colwell-Chanthaphonh looks at an 1871 massacre of people from several Apache bands to explore some of the killings' multiple meanings for a range of publics: Apaches now and of that time, those who planned and carried out the massacre, current residents of Tucson, and readers concerned about the consequences of violence and dispossession. He juxtaposes multiple sources—documentary, oral, and ethnographic—examining closely the social and political contexts and historicities of those texts. In the process he achieves a truly multi-disciplinary and multi-vocal analysis. Colwell-Chanthaphonh closes the book with a "meditation" focusing not on "how the past is remembered so much as why it should be remembered." He concludes with the hope that "knowing the past encourages us to resolve inequities that were conceived long ago and that endure today, making the search for the complex truths of past events a search for restorative justice." *Massacre at Camp Grant* is solidly grounded in landscape and memory studies. It is theoretically informed and accessible, energized by broad social concerns and moral purposes, and a joy to read.

## Honorable Mention

**Jerome de Groot, *Consuming History: Historians and Heritage in Contemporary Popular Culture*** (Routledge, 2009)

Jerome de Groot is your expert guide on this whirlwind tour of multiple publics engaging with the past today. He acutely observes and analyses the historical yearnings of an astonishing variety of contemporary popular culture productions in Great Britain and the United States. De Groot casts a wide net that catches not only movies, television, and pop fiction, but also video games, historical reenactments, genealogy, museum exhibitions, antiques, local history practice, and other popular enthusiasms that public historians too often ignore as mere "heritage." He explores how a range of emerging technologies is shaping and rapidly re-shaping popular representations of the past. All the while, he insists that readers pay

attention to the sophistication and complexity of these public and popular productions. He makes a compelling case that public historians need to grasp the passions and concerns of "popular" history devotees. The popular imagined past is vibrant and here to stay, and public historians ignore it at their own risk. Cary Carson might text the message this way: OMG. sumbody finly gts this stuff! can u belev it? dipin candalz, gamng, guyz in wigz. wht a concept! lk a pst that mtrz to the public. awsum! CYA.

**Paula Hamilton and Linda Shopes, editors, *Oral History and Public Memories*** (Temple University Press, 2008)

Hamilton and Shopes have collected essays from scholars around the world to bridge the disconnect between the fields of oral history and public memory, and to urge an activist practice that takes oral history "out of the house" of archives and academe and sends it "down the street" to do the work of history in the public arena. Because of the editors' commanding knowledge of oral history projects worldwide, these essays demonstrate the rich variety and bracing particularity of contemporary oral history work. Hamilton and Shopes' strong editorial vision sustains the book's focus throughout on oral history as inherently interpretive, dealing with questions not simply about what is remembered, but why it is remembered. As a result, the essays gathered here explore the social, civic, economic, and political contexts within which individuals choose to remember and forget. The editors adeptly frame these essays so that the whole is more than the sum of the parts. Interdisciplinary and multi-national, *Oral History and Public Memories* assembles fascinating studies to bring together current practice and theory in oral history and memory studies.

## Excellence in Consulting Award



Manon Parry receiving an Excellence in Consulting Award. Image courtesy of Patrick Moore.

## Manon Parry

Manon Parry, curator at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland, received the award for excellence in presentation of history through exhibits, and her related work, in the

continued on page 10 →

# NCPH Board of Directors Spring Meeting

On Wednesday and Thursday, April 1-2, 2009, the NCPH Board of Directors convened during the NCPH Annual Meeting in Providence, Rhode Island, and took the following actions:

- Approved the Minutes of the Fall 2008 Board Meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Approved the Endowment Fund Investment Policy proposed by the Finance Committee. The policy is meant to help the committee and board protect and increase the endowment and defines the organization's approach to investing, its risk tolerance, the asset mix and quality, and reporting requirements.
- Created an ad hoc committee of the board to continue exploring a policy on Socially Responsible Investing.
- Thanked Sarah Koeppel for her three years of outstanding performance as the NCPH Program Director and wished her well in her new job as an archaeologist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Vicksburg, Mississippi.
- Discussed with the chair of the Development Committee, Shelley Bookspan, that group's plans for fundraising and other recommendations for strengthening NCPH.
- Created an ad hoc international committee to improve NCPH's connections to public historians and public history organizations abroad.
- Reviewed the executive summary of the draft report of the Working Group on Evaluating Public History Scholarship, a joint committee of the NCPH, American Historical Association, and the Organization of American Historians.
- Discussed the reports submitted by the 2010 Program Committee, Consultants' Committee, Ad Hoc Graduate Student Committee, Ad Hoc 30th Anniversary Committee, Curriculum and Training Committee, Outreach Committee, New Professional Awards Committee, and Consultants' Award Committee.
- Discussed with the chair of the Book Award Committee, Laura Feller, that group's proposal for creating an award for books written in languages other than English.
- Planned an approach to updating the three memoranda of agreement that NCPH maintains: with the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) for providing the editorial offices of *The Public Historian*; with the University of California Press (UCP) for publishing *The Public Historian*; and with Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) for housing the executive offices. The UCSB agreement expires in July 20, 2009; the UCP agreement expires December 31, 2009; and the IUPUI agreement expires May 31, 2010.
- Discussed the possibility of connecting NCPH's biennial Michael C. Robinson Prize for Historical Analysis to *The Public Historian's* renewed efforts to review gray literature.
- Received an advocacy update from Lee White, executive director of the National Coalition for History.

## What's an Annual Meeting Working Group?

NCPH working groups are seminar-like conversations of 10-15 people during the annual conference that explore, in-depth, a subject of shared concern.

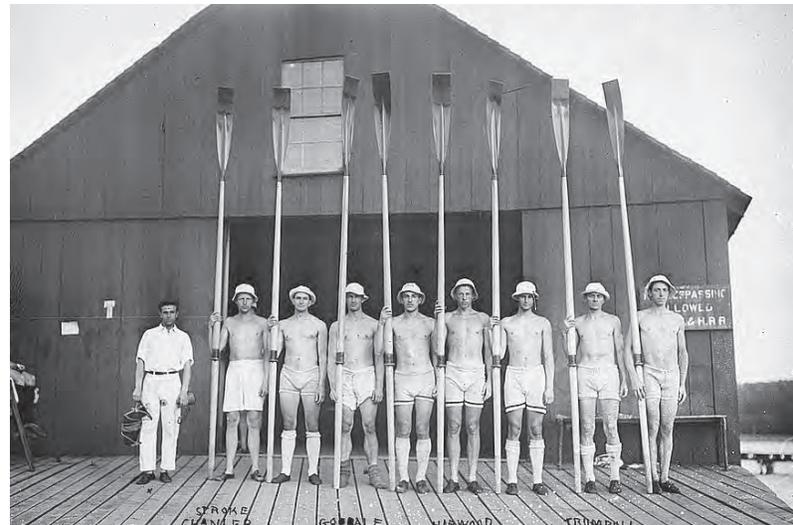
**How will they be formed for Portland next spring?** Individuals willing to serve as facilitators propose topics in response to the Annual Meeting Call for Proposals (due June 30, 2009). The Program Committee will select several working group topics and issue another call, this time for working group participants. Facilitators build their groups in the fall by selecting from among people who have submitted one-paragraph requests to join. Several weeks prior to the conference, facilitators ask each member of their working group to write a 2-3 page case statement. These are exchanged by email. Members comment on each other's work.

**What makes a working group so special?** When a group convenes at the conference, the conversation has already begun. Participants are invested in the outcome. Facilitators have had time to refine their questions, and sometimes they develop plans with the group for an article, white paper, or session proposal for other conferences.

**Who may participate?** Anyone who proposes a working group topic by June 30 that is accepted by the Program Committee, or anyone selected by working group facilitators in the fall in response to the working group call. Most facilitators will open their working group to other conference goers in Portland who want to sit in on the discussion. Such observers may be welcome to join in the conversation, but are reminded that facilitators might give priority to the participants who submitted written case statements.

**Questions?** Contact the NCPH office at (317) 274-2716 or [ncph@iupui.edu](mailto:ncph@iupui.edu).

Harvard rowing team, 1913. Courtesy of Library of Congress, LC-B2-2734-8.



# President's Comments



Marianne Babal  
babalm@wellsfargo.com

## Moving Forward from Providence

In April, 603 public historians gathered in Providence for our largest, most successful, and most energetic NCPH annual meeting to date. As always, I return home from the meeting exhausted yet energized at the same time by the exciting discussions and ideas generated when so many talented and committed public historians come together.

The annual meeting is also the place where much of the work of our board of directors and committees takes place, and as president of our organization, unfortunately I don't get to attend as many conference sessions as I'd like to. One session I did manage to sit in on was the working group on diversity, facilitated by Modupe Labode and Calinda Lee. This working group of a dozen practitioners and educators in case statements and discussion explored at length the status of diversity within the history profession, and more specifically, the woeful lack of diversity in our field.

Studies done in recent years have revealed the history profession—and by extension public history—to be among the least diverse fields

in the social sciences. The recent Survey of Public History Professionals conducted by NCPH in concert with AHA and a number of other professional associations revealed that 88% of the survey's 3,800 respondents were white. Just 7% of survey participants identified themselves as Black, Asian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic/Latino, Native American/First Nations or multiracial. In fact, the 4.5% of respondents who declined to state their ethnicity far outnumbered any single group of color.

These results, while not unexpected, are both disappointing and disturbing, for it seems to indicate public history as a field is not following the trend of society at large toward multiculturalism and greater diversity. Even the business world has come to recognize the value of diversity within its workforce and customers, although admittedly with mixed success, and, some cynics would argue, mixed motivations. Still, with the purchasing power of ethnic minorities exceeding two trillion dollars per year, businesses which ignore diversity do so at their own peril. Increased attention to diversity can

Increasing diversity is a top priority for our organization.

increase bottom line results. For NCPH and public history, attracting diverse practitioners to the field and cultivating diverse audiences for our work is equally important for growth and success, and increasing diversity is a top

priority for our organization. Our focus on increasing diversity also cannot be limited to race or ethnicity. NCPH must expand our goal of greater inclusivity to encompass gender, sexual orientation and other facets of diversity as well.

The working group identified many potential avenues for increasing diversity within the public history profession and the diversity of the publics with whom public historians work.

Members of the group agreed to continue their discussions, exploring possible strategies for increasing diversity and perhaps targeted measures that the NCPH can take to move our profession and organization in a more inclusive, more diverse direction.

A second commitment to diversity on a global scale emanated from committee recommendations and the NCPH Board of Directors, which has created a task force on internationalization of public history. Public history has gained a firm foothold in the international arena, with public historians currently practicing in some 30 countries beyond North America. The value of public historians engaging with audiences around the world and the global spread of public history is not only gratifying; it is an opportunity for NCPH to become the primary source for information and networking among practitioners on multiple continents.

Our journal *The Public Historian* has already recognized the internationalization of the field. The journal's most recent special issue highlights public history practice in Canada; and currently, three members of the journal's editorial board hail from beyond U.S. borders. Our NCPH international taskforce will launch initiatives to increase the membership of NCPH worldwide, boost participation by international public historians in our annual meetings and NCPH leadership, and help infuse global perspective into our everyday work. Members of the NCPH Board of Directors and the *The Public Historian* Editorial Board will spearhead the international taskforce and its activities.

We have a lot of work to do. I look forward to the challenge.



## Remembering NCPH with a Charitable Bequest

NCPH began thirty years ago promoting the work of public historians. Today it is a vital and growing organization of more than a thousand members and six hundred subscribing institutions. NCPH's plans for expanding programs in the decades ahead are predicated on the availability of adequate resources. These will come not only from membership dues, annual giving, and grants, but also new sources such as charitable bequests and other forms of planned giving.

A bequest is a provision in a last will and testament where a gift or property is transferred from an estate to a nonprofit organization. You can make a bequest by simply adding a codicil to an existing will. It is also possible to designate NCPH as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, an IRA, 401(k), or other retirement plan.

If you have made or plan to make a provision for a gift to NCPH in your estate plan, we ask that you let us know. Sending a letter of intent that sets a value will help us chart the organization's future. If you would like more information about establishing a charitable bequest, please contact the executive director at [jdichtl@iupui.edu](mailto:jdichtl@iupui.edu).

# → Committees on the Go



Lindsey Reed (standing) was recognized for her long service on *The Public Historian* during the 30th Anniversary session, "Founding NCPH, Looking to the Future." Panelists included Arnita Jones, G. Wesley Johnson (standing), and Phil Cantelon.

*NCPH is fortunate to have an involved membership. The reports presented here give a sampling of what the committees have been doing or what they are planning for the coming year. If you are interested in participating, please let us know at [ncph@iupui.edu](mailto:ncph@iupui.edu). Please contact committee chairs and members, listed on the NCPH website, if there are issues you think a committee should address.*

## Consultants

In the past year the Consultants' Committee revived the consultants' section in *Public History News*, and it will continue to submit articles and news of interest for inclusion. The committee also changed from a consultants' breakfast to a consultants' reception at the 2009 Annual Meeting, which was a tremendous success. Committee members secured funding for this event and were able to offer tickets at no cost to attendees. The committee continues to address questions of how NCPH can advocate for and advance the goals of those doing consulting or contract work.

## Graduate Student

This is the first year that NCPH has had a Graduate Student Committee (ad hoc) to help plan for the annual meeting and, more generally, to contribute to the culture of the organization. Three subcommittees expanded the conference mentor program, developed a speed-networking opportunity for young public history professionals, and created a list of frequently asked questions (from a graduate student perspective) about the annual conference. Several of the committee members served as guest bloggers for the 2009 annual meeting. The group has submitted a lengthy list of suggestions for the board of directors and executive office to consider.

## Membership

The Membership Committee reviewed the Survey of Public History Practitioners that NCPH and the AHA developed late last fall, and they made many very good observations that were subsequently discussed by participants at the "Whither the Field" session at this year's Providence conference. The report will give the board ideas about the status and concerns of our members. The committee helped lead the First Time Participants/New Members Breakfast in Providence. Approximately 60 people attended this 7:30 a.m. breakfast. They enjoyed meeting with each other, and offered ideas that the committee will pass on to the board that will benefit NCPH.

## Curriculum and Training

This committee proposed, developed, and sponsored three sessions at the 2009 annual meeting; continued to develop the NCPH Public History Educator's listerv; completed the public history reviewer's initiative and best practices documents in public history education. The committee was also instrumental in planning the mentoring program with the Graduate Student Committee at the 2009 Annual Meeting.

## Outreach

Coordinating a promotional video for the NCPH is the committee's central task. The committee is moving away from updating the older video to exploring ways in which both a partnership with The History Channel and short videos which could be hosted on the NCPH website can be mobilized to create visual resources that will inform the public about public history and the NCPH. At the NCPH conference, the committee met to plan ways to solicit such videos from the NCPH membership.

## 30th Anniversary

Committee member Tim Roberts has designed an anniversary logo, which is on the NCPH website and in this newsletter. On behalf of the committee, Roberts and Roy Oberto conducted videotape interviews during the 2009 Annual Meeting with thirty long-time NCPH members. The committee might create short video productions based on the interviews to enhance our anniversary celebration, and might ask several public history programs to adopt this as a student project to be shown at the 2010 meeting. The committee sponsored a retrospective session involving some of the founders of NCPH, Arnita Jones, G. Wesley Johnson, and Phil Cantelon. Clips from the session are viewable at <http://www.youtube.com/user/NCPHPublicHistory>. The second 30th Anniversary session provided an opportunity to raise issues important to the future of NCPH and public history. Audience members discussed the job market; public history as an international field; censorship, ethics, and advocacy; diversity in race, gender, and ethnicity; questions of the diversity of the field, i.e., "Who is a public historian?" The committee looks forward

to working with the 2010 Program Committee on at least some of these topics and will propose additional sessions of its own.

## Development Committee

In its initial report to the NCPH Board, the Development Committee submitted numerous ideas for expanding the sources of the organization's financial support. Ideas range from enticing long-time NCPH members to become "planned" donors to identifying additional corporate sponsors to corralling the talents of NCPH members in order to create NCPH services for sale. Some of the Committee's ideas addressed expanding and diversifying membership, and those were forwarded to the Membership Committee for consideration and execution. Other ideas explored growth potential through international partnering, and those were handed on to the newly created International Committee. The next steps for the Development Committee are to help organize an event at next year's conference in Portland that will be focused on deferred giving such as bequests, honoring the 30th anniversary of NCPH, and to study the prospective costs and benefits of several of the proposed new services.

## Working Group on Evaluating Public History Scholarship

How should public history work be recognized and rewarded in promotion and tenure decisions? NCPH, the American Historical Association (AHA), and the Organization of American Historians (OAH) formed a task force in 2007 to advance this discussion and report to the governing boards of the three associations. Early drafts of the report, which includes best practices and recommendations for historians, history departments, and higher education administrators, were presented at the OAH and NCPH annual meetings this spring. The working group posted a new draft on the NCPH website in April for more public comment this spring and summer. After revisions, the report will go to the governing boards of the AHA, NCPH, and OAH for review and ultimately for formal consideration this fall.

## Digital Media Group

The Digital Media Group, convened last fall, has begun to extend NCPH's presence into various "social networking" spaces, including Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, the blogosphere (via the conference blog at <http://ncph2009.blogspot.com/>), and YouTube. Future ideas from the group include a creating general public history blog, revisiting and revising the public history definition on Wikipedia, and finding ways to support the efforts of NCPH committees working on outreach, publicity, the 30th anniversary celebration, and more. The H-Public listerv, which the Digital Media Group also oversees, continues to grow steadily and now has almost 1,600 subscribers.

# From the Executive Director



John Dichtl  
jdichtl@iupui.edu

Seeing so many new faces at the annual meeting, particularly young ones, is heartening. As I have written before, NCPH seems to be attracting more graduate students to the conference and as members throughout the year. And NCPH's happy fortune comes while we are celebrating a 30th anniversary, with a generation of founders and pioneers who are beginning their retirements. Students and new practitioners who join and remain members of NCPH are good for the association. But are we serving the best interests of the growing segment of our membership that is...well...young?

We are trying. Last summer NCPH created an ad hoc Graduate Student Committee that has accomplished much and plans even more. (See the committee report in this issue.) As an organization we are using H-Public, Facebook, LinkedIn, and blogs to build a sense of community, and, one could argue, such new

media are particularly appealing to younger professionals. Furthermore, for many years we have subsidized membership rates for graduate students as well as for "new professionals"—the recent graduates of public history programs or individuals who have been working within the public history profession for a few years. We offer a few travel grants for both groups, and, more recently, graduate students and new professionals in greater numbers are serving on NCPH committees and presenting at the conference.

What more can NCPH do? First, the organization should continue to find ways to encourage and involve graduate students, but not lose sight of new and mid-career professionals. As one evaluation respondent noted after the conference in Providence, "there seemed to be a bit of over-fixation on graduate students. I like the idea of including young people & newcomers to the field, but we shouldn't forget about those who graduated last year or the year before!" The Graduate Student Committee commented on this perceived imbalance also. It reported having heard from new professionals who asked if the committee would be addressing their concerns, too.

(To its credit, the committee already has requested license to plan joint grad/new professional events and services for the 2010 Annual Meeting.)

Several directors of public history programs also raised a related issue during the conference. What do we know about the availability of jobs? At the Public History Educators' Breakfast meeting in Providence, several directors said they were concerned that the field is producing credentialed public historians without enough certainty that employment awaits their students. NCPH is trying to gather data to provide a more holistic picture of public history careers.

I have been asked many times in the past year for that kind of information. And it is my hope that in the next couple of years NCPH can become a clearinghouse to answer these types of questions: What is the total number of public history practitioners? The precise number and character of public history graduate programs? How many M.A.s are produced in public history? What is the average starting salary?

Last fall, working with the American Historical Association and eight other historical organizations, NCPH conducted the Survey of Public History Practitioners. More than 3,800 individuals responded, giving us a huge body of data we only have just begun to mine. The survey covered basic demographic information, asked about salary levels and job satisfaction, graduate training, and much more. Initial results were presented at the annual meeting, and more will be appearing in *Public History News*.

A related effort to gather and share information will be the launch of an Online Guide to Public History Programs in the months ahead. The executive office will be surveying graduate and undergraduate public history program directors about all facets of their programs, from the number of students admitted each year, to courses, internships, and funding, to the jobs they find when they finish. You can help get us started today by looking at the list of programs on the NCPH website (under "Education") and letting us know if there are any missing.

## Getting at Thirty Years of Scholarship

An updated index to articles and reviews in *The Public Historian* is available on the NCPH website at <http://www.ncph.org/PublicationsResources/ThePublicHistorian/tabid/311/Default.aspx>. Many entries include abstracts and lists of key terms, which will make your searching and research more efficient. Some of the annotations have been provided by authors and some by graduate students in the Public History Program at the University of California Santa Barbara, where the journal has been edited since its founding in 1979. If you have been a *TPH* author or reviewer and would like to substitute your own abstract for the one included for your article, please send it to [LREED@history.ucsb.edu](mailto:LREED@history.ucsb.edu).

## Sailing toward Broader Horizons



In the March issue of *Public History News*, H-Public Co-editor and Chair of NCPH's Digital Media Group Cathy Stanton wrote about NCPH's voyage into the "Interactive Web." Conference attendees in Providence jumped on that virtual ship, and waves are still being felt. Last year's conference blog for the Louisville meeting consisted of four invited bloggers who contributed 23 posts. The 2009 conference blog was opened up to all attendees, which resulted in 19 bloggers contributing 48 posts. Excitement before, during, and after the 2009 conference was evidenced by posts from graduate students about what to do in Providence, their favorite sessions and "Confessions of a Conference Junkie." Practitioners' blogged in the hopes of continuing discussions after sessions and keynotes as well as providing their thoughts on exhibits in, and historic preservation of, the area. Both the 2009 and 2008 blogs are open at <http://ncph2009.blogspot.com/> and <http://ncph2008.blogspot.com/>.

The virtual ship also set sail to Facebook, LinkedIn, and Youtube. The NCPH Facebook Fan page increased 15% from March to April where fans can look at pictures from previous conferences or discuss the field with over 500 public historians around the globe. More members join the NCPH LinkedIn group weekly in order to connect to the growing network of public history professionals. And the NCPH Public History Youtube Channel provides snippets from 2009 annual meeting sessions and keynotes. We urge you to visit <http://www.youtube.com/user/NCPHPublicHistory> to see what's 'on'!

# Congratulations Award Winners! (from page 5)

health field. Both of her exhibits were held at the National Library of Medicine and were titled “Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America’s Women Physicians,” and “Against the Odds: Making a Difference in Global Health.”



Vice President Marty Blatt and Excellence in Consulting recipient James Steely. Image courtesy of Patrick Moore.

## James W. Steely

James Steely, of SWCA Environmental Consultants, received an award for excellence in architectural historic preservation activities, including historic preservation planning, inventory, documentation, and recordation. These activities have been carried out for a variety of customers and projects.

## G. Wesley Johnson Award



November 2008 (30:4) issue of *The Public Historian*

*NCPH acknowledges the generous support of Stan Hordes of HMS Associates in Santa Fe, NM, for underwriting this award.*

## Cary Carson, “The End of History Museums: What is Plan B?” *The Public Historian* 30:4 (2008)

Cary Carson presents an alarming picture of the threats faced by history museums in the twenty-first century and offers guidance and hope that these institutions might adapt to new realities. The answer, he argues, lies in developing region-wide collaborations between museums, historic sites, public television, and state humanities councils to create narrative “superstories” that tie individual institutions into networks with a bigger stories to tell, new technologies to tell them with, and a more interactive relationship between museum and visitor. It is clear that museums and other

cultural organizations will have to reinvent themselves to survive. Carson combines bold new ideas with years of experience at Colonial Williamsburg to initiate a new conversation on how they might succeed.

## New Professional Awards



Santi Thompson and Meghan Bishop with NCPH Vice President Marty Blatt. Image courtesy of Patrick Moore.

## HRA New Professional Travel Award

*NCPH acknowledges the generous support of Historical Research Associates, Inc., for underwriting this award.*

**Meghan Bishop**, Historic Interpreter, Tyrone Palace Historic Sites and Garden, Bern, North Carolina

## NCPH New Professional Travel Award

*This year’s award was funded by a generous gift from NCPH President Marianne Babal.*

**Santi Thompson**, Digital Collections Project Manager, Thomas Cooper Library, University of South Carolina

## NCPH Student Project Award



Hannah Howard and Kristen Foster receive the Student Project Award. Image courtesy of Patrick Moore.

*To commemorate his pioneering work and broad influence on public history, NCPH dedicated the*

*2009 Student Project and 2009 Graduate Student Travel Awards to the memory of Noel J. Stowe.*

**Hannah Howard and Kristen Foster**, University of North Carolina Charlotte – **History at Light Speed: Discovering Charlotte’s Northeast Corridor**

This project exemplified the innovative partnerships the best public history projects can encompass. Working with the city of Charlotte, and the Charlotte Area Transit System, these students researched the history of several neighborhoods which would soon receive light rail transit stations. Students hosted a public meeting attended by a large number of community members, and the storyboards and narratives will be used to inform commissioned artwork for each station. The direct impact on citizens who may not otherwise participate in public history presentations, the innovative collaboration with city agencies and partnership with city employees, and the use of historical research as a foundation for artistic representations, are commended by the committee.

## Graduate Student Travel Awards



Laura McDowell, NCPH Vice President Marty Blatt, Katherine Faz, Vanessa Macias, Jami Forrester, and Nathan Hallam. Image courtesy of Patrick Moore.

*This year’s travel awards were funded by a generous gift from Past President Bill Bryans, which was matched by members of the Board of Directors. This year the awards are dedicated to the memory of Noel J. Stowe.*

**Katherine Faz**, Texas State University-San Marco

**Jami Forrester**, University of Arkansas

**Nathan Hallam**, Arizona State University

**Vanessa Macias**, New Mexico State University

**Laura McDowell**, Loyola University Chicago

## Bridging is Possible

### Finding the Interweaves of Civil War History in Black History (from page 1)

Company G, Thirty-fifth U.S. Colored Troops—a member of the North Carolina African Brigade (2). He became one of approximately 6,000 United States Colored Troops from North Carolina.

I recently had the opportunity to see a living historian portray William Henry Singleton. This living historian is a bridge. So too is the first African American intern at Ft. Fisher State Historic Site. So too is the release of Harriet Jacobs's papers in the Chowan County courthouse where Jacobs's grandmother received her freedom. When looked for and pointed out, there are many such connectors between Civil War historic interpretation and African American communities.

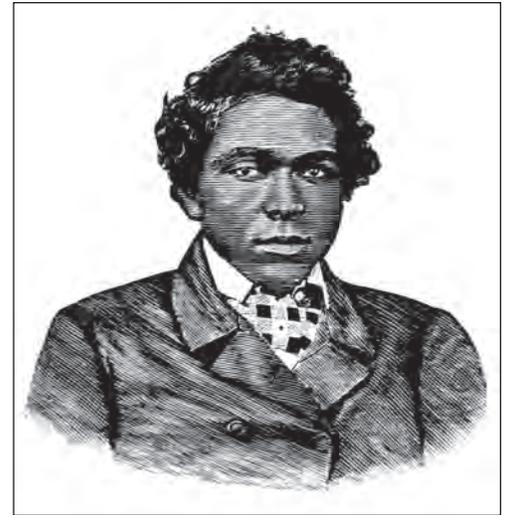
The Civil War's legacy of self-determination lingers above the fireplace mantel of renowned black educator Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, in the form of a treasured print of the Robert Gould Shaw and Massachusetts, 54th Regiment Memorial. A legacy of racial uplift all but echoes up the steps of the State Capitol—steps displaying the toil of enslaved labor and steps that also held the feet of North Carolina's first black legislators. Within the Capitol's walls, the 14th Amendment was ratified by black and white men, and Emancipation Communities, such as Princeville, became incorporated towns. Men like Abraham Galloway, who served in the North Carolina Senate, emerged out of leadership roles during the Civil War. Galloway advocated for the equal rights of colored soldiers, served as a Union spy, and recruited troops into military service.

This journey into a greater awareness about the interweave of Civil War history with African American history does not completely erase, nor should it, the conflict's connections to white supremacy and oppression, however; this journey has increased my awareness of how freedoms were birthed out of the blood of this war. As the sesquicentennial travels toward us, perhaps we are also sojourning toward this commemoration—seeking out memories we did not know we had lost. In this newest reclamation of memories, I pray all of the voices may be heard.

#### Notes:

1. According to family, oral histories, which I believe, one of my paternal great-great-grandfathers was an officer in the Confederate Army and one of my maternal great-great-grandfathers was a member of the United States Colored Troops. I am still searching for the archival evidence to support these memories.
2. Singleton, William Henry. *Recollection of My Slavery Days*, with Introduction and Annotations by Katherine Mellen Charron and David S. Cecelski. Office of Archives and History North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Raleigh, 2007.

*Michelle Lanier uses her background as a folklorist and oral historian to connect communities around the rich cultural resources of the Carolinas' communities of color.*



Abraham Galloway. Image courtesy of the North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina.

## Upcoming NCPH Annual Meetings

### 2010 Portland, OR, March 10-14

Hilton Portland & Executive Tower  
NCPH and the American Society for Environmental History will hold their annual meetings at the same time, in the same hotel, with shared tours and special events.

### 2011 Pensacola, FL

Dates and hotel to be announced

### 2012 Milwaukee, WI, April 19-22

A joint meeting with the Organization of American Historians at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center

*To propose an annual meeting location for 2013 or beyond, please contact the NCPH Executive Office. Members who submit a formal proposal typically serve as the chair of the Local Arrangements Committee.*



# NCPH Member Benefits

When you become a NCPH member, you'll obtain access to:

- Networks of other public historians
- *The Public Historian* and *Public History News*
- Advocacy on behalf of the profession
- Awards for students, new professionals, consultants, books, articles, and public history projects
- Annual Meeting registration discounts
- Professional development workshop discounts
- Electronic NCPH publications and resources
- Up-to-date job listings, professional development offerings, conference and calls list, and a consultant's directory

### Membership Dues

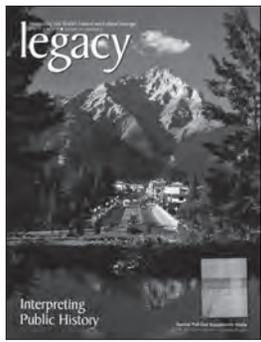
Patron: \$500	New Professional: \$40
Sponsor: \$300	Student: \$30
Individual: \$70	

Institutional subscriptions are available through University of California Press.

Join or renew online at [www.ncph.org](http://www.ncph.org).

Welcome New Members!

Maria Abunnasr Amherst, MA	Brittany Dixon Pensacola, FL	Jeannene Herber San Marcos, TX	Susan McCormick Albany, NY	Jeffrey Robinson Boston, MA	Karl Warner Morgantown, WV
Claire Andrade-Watkins Boston, MA	Bette Elsdon Florence, MA	Allison Herrmann Vernon, CT	Heather Mikolaj San Francisco, CA	Kristen Rogers Salt Lake City, UT	Tyler Welch Fort Collins, CO
Michelle Antenesse Mission Viejo, CA	Debra Everett-Lane New York, NY	James Hill Omaha, NE	Gail Mohanty N.Dartmouth, MA	Amy Rohmiller Murfreesboro, TN	Marty Wilson East Stroudsburg, PA
Aileen Bastos West Hartford, CT	Faith Ferguson Gloucester, MA	Nancy Hill Annandale, VA	Melissa Montag Citrus Heights, CA	Michael Rossow Hampshire, IL	Kelly Sellers Wittie Hammond, LA
Elisha Beck Hays, KS	Caitlin Fisher Providence, RI	Michelle Hill San Antonio, TX	James Moran Worcester, MA	Rich Saal Springfield, IL	Julia Yannetti Wilmington, NC
Stephanie Blaher Woodbridge, VA	Joseph Freeman Davis, CA	Peter Hinks Wethersfield, CT	Caitlin Nicholson Crestview, FL	Natalie Schuler Washington, DC	Kariann Yokota New Haven, CT
Michael Bleddyn Nashville, TN	Danielle French Navarre, FL	Kristin Hohmeier Alexandria, VA	Betsy Nix Baltimore, MD	Reina Shibata Providence, RI	Stephanie Yuhl Worcester, MA
Mims Bledsoe Atlanta, GA	Lance Gambrell Mesilla, NM	Carey Jones Pawtucket, RI	Joseph Obidzinski Morgantown, WV	Clara Silverstein Auburndale, MA	Sarah Zimmerman Wyoming, DE
Julia Bourbois Covina, CA	Dan Gifford Arlington, VA	Genevieve Joyner Nashville, TN	Christopher Pajonk Blacksburg, VA	Chelsea Strelser McLean, VA	
Molly Brookfield Saint Paul, MN	Maria Goodwin Washington, DC	Leslie Kesler Charlotte, NC	Cigdem Pakel Ashburn, VA	Christine Szuter Tempe, AZ	
Victoria Byerly Stoneham, MA	Marie Hall Simsbury, CT	Amy Melissa Kirby West Hartford, CT	Jean Palfrey Laramie, WY	Raymond Tatum Chicago, IL	
Sarah Camacho Madison, WI	Nathan Hallam Tempe, AZ	Adina Langer Jersey City, NJ	Sarah Patenaude Cincinnati, OH	Meghan Townes Providence, RI	
Michael Cannane Amelia, OH	Brigid Harmon Astoria, NY	Michael Lansing Minneapolis, MN	Emily Pecora Astoria, NY	David Vaughn, Jr. Pine Bluff, AR	
Diana Coderre Newport, RI	Larry Hassenpflug Las Cruces, NM	Heather Lavezzo Sacramento, CA	Matthew Peek Fairborn, OH	Kaitlin Wainwright Ottawa, ON	
Hannah Cole Star City, WV	Kayla Haveles Palmer, MA	Leslie Lindenuer Clinton, CT	Jennifer Pustz Boston, MA	Mary Jean Wallace New Orleans, LA	
Glenna Dean Espanola, NM	Catherine Hawkins Murfreesboro, TN	Heidi Martens Indianapolis, IN	Diane Rapaport Burlington, MA	Cynthia Wallace-Casey Fredericton, NB	
Teresa DeFlicht Fairfax, VA	Lisa Hayes Accokeek, MD	Molly May New Britain, CT	Barbara Rasmussen Morgantown, WV	Laura Walters Pilot Mountain, NC	



# Interpreting Public History

Public History was the focus of the March/April 2009 issue of *Legacy*, the bimonthly magazine of the National Association for Interpretation (NAI). Marty Blatt, NCPH's Vice President, is interviewed about the field. In a feature article, "Telling Stories in Someone

Else's House: Heritage Areas & Public History," NCPH member Chuck Arning describes successful new partnerships among historic sites. NAI is a group of about 5,000 members dedicated to advancing the profession of heritage interpretation.

## New Report on Museum Public Finance

In December 2008, the Institute of Museum and Library Services released "Exhibiting Public Value: Government Funding for Museums in the United States." The study provides the first major review of public finance for the museum sector. It explores public support from federal, state, and local government sources, focusing particular attention on levels of financial support and types of delivery mechanisms.

This is one of the few studies to examine U.S. museums as a sector separate from other cultural institutions. The museum sector includes aquariums, arboretums, botanical gardens, art museums, children's museums, general museums, historic houses and history museums, nature centers, natural history and anthropology museums, planetariums, science and technology centers, specialized museums, and zoos.

The study was developed in response to requests for an examination of alternative funding strategies for the nation's museums, including a population-based grant program to the states for museum services. Some of the highlights include:

- Slightly more than 70 percent of U.S. museums are private nonprofit entities; the rest are public-owned. For-profit entities are a very small part of the sector (0.2 percent).
- Direct federal support to museums tends to be concentrated in several geographic areas and that it tends to flow to museums for specific types of services. IMLS was the only federal agency that provided support for museums in every state in all seven years examined in the study.
- Local public support for museums is significant in the United States and for some types of museums provides over 50 percent of all government support.

While the study shed light on the rich complexity of museum funding, more research is needed. Specifically, there is a great need for a consistent, reliable museum census, greater standardization of data in the field and among funders and administrative data managers, more information about the nature of museum support at all levels of government,

and a more systematic analysis of the human or social impact of museum services, according to the study. Download, view, and print the report at [www.imls.gov/pdf/MuseumPublicFinance.pdf](http://www.imls.gov/pdf/MuseumPublicFinance.pdf).

*Reprinted from California History Action, the newsletter of the California Council for the Promotion of History*

## Stimulus 101 for Preservationists

Will the \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act prove to be a curse or a blessing for preservationists? Although there are record levels of funding available now because of this stimulus bill, preservation funding is also being cut, threatening state historic preservation offices, Main Street programs, and other cultural initiatives. This dichotomy is creating a situation in which there are more potential opportunities, while at the same time the field is being downsized and historic resources threatened. This is the "perfect storm." It is not too late to get support, but preservation advocates should act quickly.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation's Stimulus 101 website is a useful resource to identify government funding opportunities. There is a "storm tracker" for each state that shows plans for the stimulus money, case studies, and more. Visit <http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/public-policy/perfect-storm/> to see the full story and resources.

*Adapted from California History Action, the newsletter of the California Council for the Promotion of History.*

For weekly updated information on jobs, fellowships, internships, awards, conferences, and calls, please visit [www.ncph.org](http://www.ncph.org).

## AWARDS, GRANTS & INTERSHIPS

The Division of Preservation and Access of the **National Endowment for the Humanities** offers grants for projects to preserve and create intellectual access to such collections as books, journals, manuscript and archival materials, maps, still and moving images, sound recordings, art, and objects of material culture. New guidelines can be found at: <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/HCRR.html>. The application receipt deadline of July 15, 2009 is for projects beginning May 2010. All applications to NEH must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov; for details see <http://www.h-net.org/announce/show.cgi?ID=168278>

To commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall riots, **OutHistory.org** will award five prizes for the best online exhibits on the local LGBTQ histories of villages, towns, counties and cities in the US since June 1969. To be eligible for the contest, first drafts of exhibits must be posted on OutHistory.org by the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall riots on June 28, 2009. OutHistory.org will announce the top five exhibits on June 28, 2010. Please contact the Project Coordinator at [outhistory@agc.cuny.edu](mailto:outhistory@agc.cuny.edu) for more information. [http://www.outhistory.org/wiki/Since\\_Stonewall\\_Contest](http://www.outhistory.org/wiki/Since_Stonewall_Contest)

The **National Humanities Center** offers 40 residential fellowships for advanced study during the academic year, September 2010 through May 2011. The center accepts individuals from the humanities, natural and social sciences, the arts, the professions, and public life who are engaged in humanistic projects. Scholars outside the United States are welcome. The center seeks to provide at least half salary and also covers travel expenses to and from North Carolina for Fellows and their dependents. Postmark deadline is October 15, 2009. See <http://nationalhumanitiescenter.org>

## WORKSHOPS

**AASLH Online Workshops** including "The Basics of Archives" are available. This workshop can be taken anytime between June 1-July 3, 2009 and takes 15-20 hours to complete. The cost is \$85 members/\$150 nonmembers. <http://www.aaslh.org/onlineworkshops.htm>

**Mapping Indiana Communities Workshop: An Introduction to GIS and Community Analysis**, June 25th and 26th, 2009, 8:30am- 4:30pm, Carmel, IN. <http://www.urban-research.info/home/>

**Managing and Preserving Archival Collections**, June 4-5, 2009, Pittsburgh, PA. Presented by the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts, this two-day program will explain how to institute proper archival procedures, manage preservation activities, gain intellectual control over collections, increase collections accessibility, and implement long-term preservation initiatives. <http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=08b626c9-5e91-496b-a5bc-656c25cd23a8>

## CALLS FOR PAPERS, ARTICLES, PROPOSALS, & PRESENTATIONS

**"World Heritage and Cultural Diversity,"** October 23-24, 2009, Cottbus, Germany. Deadline is June 1, 2009. <http://www-1.tu-cottbus.de/BTU/Fak2/studium/whs/conference2009/about.html>

**"Currents of Change: 2010 NCPH Joint Annual Meeting with the American Society for Environmental History,"** March 10-14, 2009, Portland, OR. Deadline is June 30, 2009. <http://www.ncph.org/Conferences/2010/tabid/553/Default.aspx>

**"Pioneer America Society: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes 41st Annual Conference,"** October 29-31, 2009, Pipestem, WV. Deadline is September 1, 2009. <http://www.pioneeramerica.org/>

**"Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife,"** June 13-14, 2009, Deerfield, MA. <http://www.bu.edu/dublinseminar/CallForPapers09a.html>

## CONFERENCES & LECTURE SERIES

**"Families and Memories-Committee on Family Research,"** June 15-17, 2009, Oslo, Norway. <http://www.h-net.org/announce/show.cgi?ID=163690&keyword=families&keyword=memories>

**"Association for Gravestone Studies Annual Conference,"** June 23-28, 2009, Schenectady, NY. <http://www.gravestonestudies.org/conferences.htm>

**"Conference of California Historical Societies,"** June 25-28, 2009, Martinez, CA. [www.californiahistorian.org](http://www.californiahistorian.org)

**"Hearing Voice in Oral History,"** July 3-4, 2009, Glasgow, UK. [http://www.ohs.org.uk/conferences/confdocs/ohs\\_conf2009\\_booklet1.pdf](http://www.ohs.org.uk/conferences/confdocs/ohs_conf2009_booklet1.pdf)

**International Conference on the History of Cartography: "Maps, Myths and Narratives: Cartography of the Far North 23rd,"** July 12-17, 2009, Copenhagen, Denmark. <http://www.ichc2009.dk/>

**"Sustainable Archives: Austin 2009,"** August 11-16, 2009, Austin, TX. <http://archivists.org/conference/>

**AASLH Annual Meeting, "Making History a 21st-Century Enterprise,"** August 26-29, 2009, Indianapolis, IN. <http://www.aaslh.org/2009-annual-meeting.htm>

## JOBS & POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Education Coordinator at the **Thomas Cole National Historic Site** is responsible for all activities relating to volunteer needs for the organization, and manages the docent program including planning, recruitment, training, monitoring, scheduling and recognition. Send a resume and cover letter to the Thomas Cole Historic Site, PO Box 426, Catskill, NY, 12414, or email to [info@thomascole.org](mailto:info@thomascole.org). <http://www.ncph.org/Portals/13/Jobs/Education%20Coordinator-%20Thomas%20Cole.pdf>

The Department of History and Military Studies in the **American Public University System** invites applications for an assistant professorship in public history. Experience

in oral and digital (media) history welcome. Preference will be given to those who can also contribute to one or more interdisciplinary programs, which include degrees in History and Military Studies. PhD and teaching experience preferred; qualified ABDs will be considered. Adjunct positions available. [www.apus.edu](http://www.apus.edu).

The **Senator John Heinz History Center** is accepting applications for two positions: Curator and Exhibits Developer/Development Director. E-mail your letter of interest with attached resume to Anne Marie Grzybek, Director of Human Resources, at [amgrzybek@hswp.org](mailto:amgrzybek@hswp.org). <http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org/secondary.aspx?id=160>

The **Florida Trust for Historic Preservation, Inc.**, a nonprofit organization located in Tallahassee, with more than 1600 members statewide, is seeking an Executive Director. Four year degree required, graduate degree preferred, with five years experience in non-profit. Event planning, development and fundraising, supervision, and computer fluency required. Applications accepted until position is filled. <http://www.floridatrust.org/jobs-desc/353>

**Preservation magazine**, the award winning bimonthly publication of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, seeks an experienced mid-level business management professional to provide strategic oversight of the business and accounting aspects of both the editorial and advertising sides of the operation, handling accounting, budgeting, forecasting and contracting duties, as well as supplying senior management with regular reports to help guide business decision-making. <http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/career-opportunities/HQ-RO/business-manager.html>





# Patrons & Sponsors

The support of the following institutions, each committed to membership at the Patron or Sponsor level, makes the work of the National Council on Public History possible.

## Patrons

- The History Channel
- American Association for State and Local History
- California State University Fullerton, Center for Oral and Public History
- California State University, San Bernardino, Department of History
- Carnegie-Mellon University, Department of History
- Chicago History Museum
- Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, Department of History
- Historical Research Associates, Inc.
- University of Houston, Center for Public History
- John Nicholas Brown Center, Brown University
- Kentucky Historical Society
- University of Louisiana, Lafayette, Department of History and Geography
- Loyola University of Chicago, Department of History
- Middle Tennessee State University, Department of History
- New Mexico State University, Department of History
- New York University, Department of History
- University of California, Santa Barbara
- University of South Carolina, Department of History
- Truman Presidential Library
- The University of West Florida Public History Program and West Florida Historic Preservation, Inc.
- University of West Georgia, Department of History

## Sponsors

- University at Albany, State University of New York, Department of History
- American University, Department of History
- Arizona State University, Department of History
- University of Arkansas Little Rock, Department of History
- Baylor University, Department of History
- California State University Chico, Department of History
- University of California Riverside, Department of History
- California State University Sacramento, Department of History
- Central Connecticut State University, Department of History
- Cornell University, Department of Science & Technology Studies
- Eastern Illinois University, Department of History
- Florida State University, Department of History
- History Link
- JRP Historical Consulting
- LifeStory Productions, Inc.
- University of Massachusetts Amherst, Department of History
- Missouri Historical Society
- University of Nevada Las Vegas, Department of History
- North Carolina State University, Department of History
- University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Department of History
- University of Northern Iowa, Department of History
- Oklahoma State University, Department of History
- Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
- University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Department of History
- Washington State University, Department of History
- Wells Fargo Historical Services
- Western Michigan University, Department of History

**Thank you for your continued support!**





# The Best in Public History—2010 Awards Program

All award winners receive complimentary annual meeting registration and a ticket for the Awards Luncheon. Submission deadline for books is December 1, 2009; because of the early dates for the 2010 Annual Meeting, all other awards are due December 10, 2009. See the NCPH website <[www.ncph.org](http://www.ncph.org)> for details.

## Outstanding Public History Project Award

A \$1,000 award for work that contributes to a broader public reflection and appreciation of the past or that serves as a model of professional public history practice. Media/ digital, exhibit, public programming, and written work are eligible for consideration.

## Excellence in Consulting Award

This \$500 prize is intended to recognize professionals whose primary engagement with public history is through consulting or contract work.

## Robert Kelley Memorial Award

This biennial \$500 award honors distinguished achievements by individuals, institutions, or nonprofit or corporate entities for making history relevant to individual lives of ordinary people outside of academia.

## Graduate Student Travel Award

Five \$300 travel grants for graduate students who have a poster or other presentation accepted for inclusion in the program of the NCPH Annual Meeting.

## Book Award

A \$1,000 award for the best book about or “growing out of” public history published within the previous two calendar years. Entries may be monographs, edited collections of articles or essays, or any other published work of comparable scope.

## Michael C. Robinson Prize for Historical Analysis

A biennial award of \$500 for excellence in historical studies that contribute directly to the formation of public policy.

## New Professional Awards

Two \$500 travel grants to encourage new professionals to attend the annual meeting. Applicants must be members of NCPH, have been practicing public historians for no more than three years, and have no institutional travel support to attend the annual meeting.

## Student Project Award

For projects initiated as academic coursework and then implemented and recognized beyond the classroom as a contribution to the field, this \$500 travel grant supports the student author(s) attendance at the annual meeting.



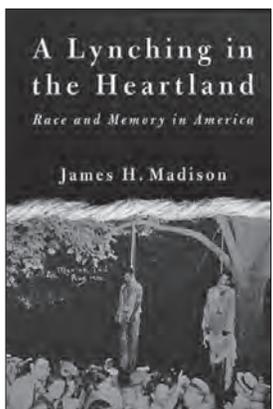
## NCPH Book Discussions at AASLH

Each year the NCPH organizes two book discussions for the annual meeting of the American Association for State and Local History. This year the meeting takes place in Indianapolis, IN, on August 26-29.

Dick Miller, who has served on the NCPH Book Award Committee, will moderate a discussion with our 2009 Book Award winner, Chip Colwell-Chanthaphonh, about his book, *Massacre at Camp Grant: Forgetting and Remembering Apache History* (The University of Arizona Press, 2007).

Modupe Labode, chair of the NCPH Outreach Committee, will moderate a discussion with James Madison about his book, *A Lynching in the Heartland: Race and Memory in America* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2001). Madison is the AASLH's awards dinner keynote speaker and is a professor of history at Indiana University.

And don't miss the NCPH reception during the conference, at 5:45 p.m. on Friday, August 28.



# “It ‘Forces One to Think More Broadly”

## Evaluation Results of the 2009 Annual Meeting (from page 4)

3 or 4 people delivering papers and then leaving 5 minutes for discussion - we come to these conferences to engage and discuss. Need more of that. • There were a few panels that focused on projects carried out at individual institutions and did not engage much with the broader issues in public history practice. In these panels, I would have liked to see more discussion of these broader issues.

### Additional Comments

- Despite problems with the hotel climate control, it did have some character and it was in a good location near restaurants and just an easy bus ride to the airport.
- Like previous two meetings, seems to have drawn a number of really bright practitioners with great projects who had not previously thought of selves as “Public Historians” or NCPH as a valuable meeting ground.
- Be careful not to let the conference get too big. Small is good. Keeping the sessions selective to ensure highest quality is best. Working groups should not have spectators if the point is to have people get feedback and only allow the prepared members participate. Workshops were helpful and a good model.
- It would be great during the conference if there were flyers or general announcements about opportunities

to become involved in the NCPH conference planning process, how to get involved on the NCPH board, the best ways to get published in the Public Historian, etc. • a digital showcase ...would work much better if it were presented in a manner similar to (or even combined with) the poster session. • offer a lengthy session on the first day that presents the history of the conference location. Attendees spend a lot of time exploring the local area (much of the time to get ideas for their own work) without a context or understanding for what they’re seeing. I think this would help attendees think more reflectively about what is being done in other places to present history to the public. • It would be nice to contract for healthier food. During breaks the only real choice was cookies and brownies -- not a good choice if you’re watching your weight or are diabetic. • Many of the topics discussed - historic sites at a crossroads, public v. academic history, heritage v. history - seemed like well-traversed ground. The NCPH, as the leading professional organization for public historians, needs to help move the conversation forward and encourage new ways of thinking about the field. • It might be nice to have a closing event on Saturday night that everyone has the option to go to that people

could mingle and interact in a more relaxed, social environment. I know there was an endowment dinner, but it seemed relatively private. It would be nice to have a closing session for everyone that included drinks, dancing, and social time. • The few of us at the climate change session had a good discussion. I like that “small class size” so the people who wimped out missed out. • This was a densely-packed and very cohesive conference, for better and worse! building in a tad more “down-time” would have enabled me to enjoy it even more - overall, though, it was a terrific experience and reflects a great degree of coordination among program comm, local arrangements, and NCPH staff • We might recommend to graduate students attending future poster sessions that they bring their CVs and business cards.

Please send any further comments or suggestions to Executive Director John Dichtl at [jdichtl@iupui.edu](mailto:jdichtl@iupui.edu), 2010 Program Chair David Neufeld at [Dave.Neufeld@pc.gc.ca](mailto:Dave.Neufeld@pc.gc.ca), or 2010 Local Arrangements Cochair Bill Willingham at [w.willingham@comcast.net](mailto:w.willingham@comcast.net).



## Public History Job Opening: Assistant to Associate Professor

**Job Description and Responsibilities:** Public History. Assistant to Associate Professor, rank commensurate with experience. Ph.D. in American History or Public History required. In addition to survey courses in American history, teaching responsibilities will include courses in public history and candidate's other areas of expertise. The successful candidate will fill the Dorothea Wyatt Professorship in US History, a position entailing civic engagement and the creation and supervision of a student internship program. Other upper and lower division courses in the applicant's specialty welcome. Publication preferred.

Minorities and women candidates are encouraged to apply.

The University of Michigan-Flint is a non-discriminatory, Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

**Job Requirements:** Ph.D. in American History or Public History required. Demonstrated teaching excellence.

Send letter of application, C.V., writing sample, and at least three letters of recommendation to Dr. Roy S. Hanashiro, Chair, Search Committee, University of Michigan-Flint, History Department, Flint, Michigan 48502-1950. Applications received by 11 November 2009 will receive first consideration. For additional information, please consult our website at [www.umich.edu/~jobs](http://www.umich.edu/~jobs).

In addition to submitting directly to the hiring department as described above, you are also required to submit your vita through the University of Michigan's job posting website at <http://www.UMjobs.org/>

# John Hope Franklin Dies at Age 94

On March 25, 2009, John Hope Franklin, the scholar who helped create the field of African-American history and dominated it for nearly six decades, died at the age of 94. Franklin brought intellectual rigor as well as an engaged passion to his work. He wrote about history—one of his books is considered a core text on the African-American experience, more than 60 years after its publication—and he lived it.

He is perhaps best known to the public for his work on President Clinton's 1997 task force on race. But his reputation as a scholar was made in 1947 with the publication of his book, *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African-Americans*, which is still considered the definitive account of the black experience in America.

I want to be out there on the firing line, helping, directing or doing something to try to make this a better world, a better place to live.

Franklin accumulated many honors during his long career, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. He shared the John W. Kluge Award for lifetime achievement in the humanities and a similar honor from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society, the nation's two oldest learned societies. Franklin

served as president both of the Organization of American Historians (1975) and the American Historical Association (1979).

In 1947 he took a post as professor at Howard University, where, in the early 1950s, he traveled from Washington to Thurgood Marshall's law office to help prepare the brief that led to the historic *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. In 1956 he became chairman of the all-white history department at Brooklyn College. Despite his position, he had to visit 35 real estate agents before he was able to buy a house for his young family and no New York bank would loan him the money. Later, while at the University of Chicago, he accompanied the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. on the march from Selma to Montgomery, Ala. in 1965. He spent 16 years at the University of Chicago, coming to Duke

## National Coalition for History Update



Lee White  
lwhite@historycoalition.org

### NCH Comments on Presidential Library System

In March, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) sought public comment on cost effective ways of modifying the present system for archiving and providing public access to Presidential records. On April 29, the National Coalition for History submitted its comments to NARA.

The Presidential Historical Records Preservation Act of 2008 (PL 110-404) contains several provisions related to Presidential libraries and the system for archiving Presidential records. The Act requires the Archivist by this July to submit to Congress a report that provides alternative models for Presidential libraries that would "1) reduce the financial burden on the Federal Government, 2) improve the preservation of presidential records, and 3) reduce the delay in public access to all presidential records."

NCH's comments focused on six topics: funding, centralization, declassification, White House coordination with NARA, technological issues, and balancing the demands of preservation and access. To see a copy of NCH's comments to NARA visit the NCH website at <http://historycoalition.org>

### National Park Service Gets Funding Boost Under Obama Economic Recovery Plan

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar recently announced the National Park Service will undertake more than 750 projects at parks across the country. The projects reflect an investment of \$750 million in the national park system, part of more than \$3 billion the Interior Department is receiving under President Obama's recovery plan. For a full list of the projects, go to the Department's Recovery Web Site at [www.interior.gov/recovery](http://www.interior.gov/recovery)

All the projects are long-standing priorities of the National Park Service based on its capital planning process. With an array of projects identified by stakeholders as critical, the service worked through a rigorous merit-based process to identify investments that met the criteria put forth in the Recovery Act: namely, that a project addresses

the Department's highest priority mission needs; generates the largest number of jobs in the shortest period of time; and creates lasting value for the American public.

National Park Service road repair projects will also get a boost because Congress directed the Federal Highway Administration to spend \$170 million of Recovery Act funds on roads in national parks. The Federal Highway money will fund 71 projects in 27 national parks in 18 states. The projects were selected from a list of priority projects rated by road condition, safety, and public use. Ready-to-go construction projects were selected as priority to ensure quick obligation, award, and construction completion before the deadline of September 2010.



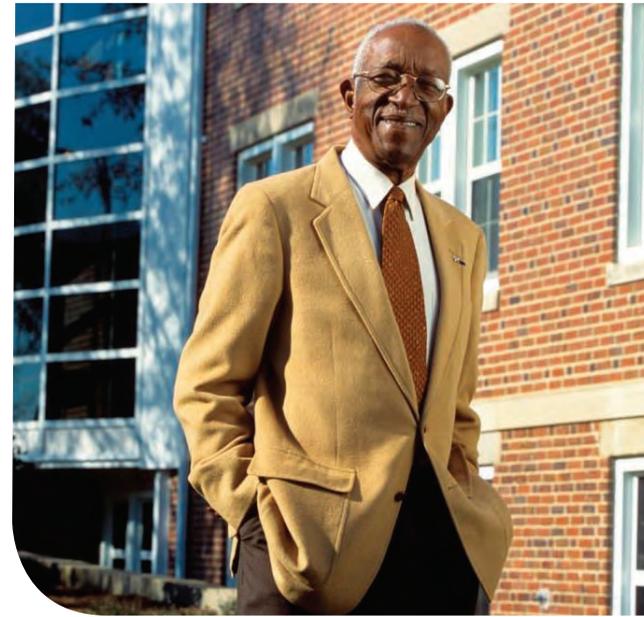
1941 image of the Cliff Palace at Mesa Verde National Park. Image courtesy of the National Archives.

in 1982. He retired from the history department in 1985, then spent seven years as professor of legal history at the Duke Law School.

In 2001 Duke opened the John Hope Franklin Center for Interdisciplinary and International Studies, ([jhfc.duke.edu](http://jhfc.duke.edu)) where scholars, artists and members of the community have the opportunity to engage in public discourse on a variety of issues, including race, social equity and globalization. At the heart of its mission is the Franklin Humanities Institute, which sponsors public events and hosts the Franklin Seminar, a residential fellowship program for Duke faculty and graduate students.

He was revered as a “moral leader” of the historical profession for his engagement in the pressing issues of the day, his unflagging advocacy of civil rights, and his gracious and courtly demeanor. For Franklin, who continued his scholarly work and public appearances full-bore into his 90s, the work he began in the 1940s still was not finished.

*Adapted from the Duke University website.*



John Hope Franklin. Image courtesy of Duke University.

### Senate Bill Introduced to Improve Teaching of American History and Civics

Sen. Lamar Alexander, along with co-sponsors Sens. Kennedy and Byrd, recently introduced a bill (S. 659) entitled the “Improving the Teaching and Learning of American History and Civics Act of 2009.” The bill would do the following:

- Increase authorization (from \$100m to \$150m) for funding “Teaching American History” programs in local school districts, which today involve 20,000 students as a part of No Child Left Behind.
- Create Presidential Academies for the Teaching of American History & Civics
- Create Congressional Academies for Students of American History & Civics
- The two academies would be authorized at \$50M for 2010-15
- Authorize appropriations for National History Day.
- Provide grants for Close-Up Foundation to fund DC trips for disadvantaged kids and teachers
- Require states to develop and implement standards for student assessments in U.S. History, although there would be no federal

accountability requirement as there is for reading and mathematics

- Allow states to compare history and civics test scores of 8th- and 12th-grade students by establishing a 10-state pilot program that would expand the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP)

### Architectural Firms Selected for Smithsonian African-American Museum

The Smithsonian Institution recently announced that Freelon Adjaye Bond/SmithGroup is the architectural team chosen to design the National Museum of African American History and Culture to be located on the National Mall near the Washington Monument. Six architectural firms entered the design competition in January. For renditions of all of the designs submitted for the competition, visit the Smithsonian’s website at [http://newsdesk.si.edu/kits/nmaahc\\_architect/default.htm](http://newsdesk.si.edu/kits/nmaahc_architect/default.htm)

The museum will be constructed on a five-acre plot of land on Constitution Avenue between the Washington Monument and the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History. The

building design will take up to three years, with construction to begin in 2012. Set to open in 2015, the museum’s total cost is estimated to be \$500 million, including design.

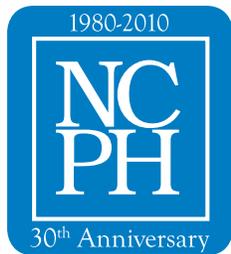
*Lee White is the executive director of the National Coalition for History, a Washington, DC-based nonprofit educational organization providing leadership in history-related advocacy. NCPH is a member of this coalition of more than 75 organizations. The coalition serves as a powerful voice for the historical profession in the United States and acts as a clearinghouse of news and information. Anyone may subscribe to the weekly NCH newsletter, The Washington Update, by visiting <http://historycoalition.org/subscribe/>.*



Design concept model for the National Museum of African American History and Culture submitted by Freelon Adjaye Bond / SmithGroup. Image courtesy of the Smithsonian.



Image courtesy of Flickr.com user tiptoety. See <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.0/deed.en> for license terms of this work.



In 2010 the American Society for Environmental History and the National Council on Public History will meet together at the Hilton Hotel in Portland, Oregon. While many conference events will be shared, the two organizations will offer separate but coordinated programs. Both organizations invite panel, roundtable, workshop, working group, paper, and poster proposals for the conference.

Located at the confluence of the Columbia and Willamette rivers and in the center of the dynamic Pacific Northwest, Portland is an ideal place to consider issues and ideas structured around the theme “Currents of Change.” These could include the relationship of human settlement to environmental transformation, the impact of power/energy development on ecological systems, the adaptive re-use/recycling of older and historic buildings and the notion of sustainable development, the rethinking of authenticity as a historic value, and interdisciplinary and culturally pluralistic approaches to historical issues. Proposals may address any area of environmental and public history, but we especially welcome submissions which illustrate or explicate the theme “Currents of Change.”

We also encourage proposals that help commemorate the 30th anniversary of NCPH, which we will be celebrating at the 2010 conference.

Proposals are due by **June 30, 2009**. For details visit [www.ncph.org](http://www.ncph.org).

## Joint Conference “Currents of Change”

American Society for Environmental History  
National Council on Public History

### **2010 Annual Meetings**

Portland, Oregon, March 10-14, 2010

### **CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

National Council on Public History  
CA 327—IUPUI, 425 University Blvd. • Indianapolis, IN 46202  
ph (317) 274-2716 • fax (317) 278-5230 • [ncph@iupui.edu](mailto:ncph@iupui.edu)

## Public History News

### **National Council on Public History**

327 Cavanaugh Hall-IUPUI  
425 University Blvd.  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-5148

ISSN 08912610

Editor: John Dichtl

Assistant Editor: Sarah Koeppl

Editorial Assistant: Steve Christopherson