



Press Release

From: National Council on Public History
Putting history to work in the world

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Subject: Public History Awards for 2017

For Immediate Release

Indianapolis, IN, March 2, 2017 — Please join us in congratulating this year's award winners for outstanding achievement in a variety of public history formats. Full details about the recipients and their projects will be released in conjunction with the NCPH Annual Meeting in Indianapolis this April. We hope you will help us celebrate at the Awards Breakfast on Saturday, April 22, at The Westin Indianapolis, 8:00 am – 10:00 am. For more detailed information on our award winners visit <http://bit.ly/ncphawards2017>.

Robert Kelley Memorial Award

Named to honor the legacy and memory of a founder of the modern public history movement, NCPH's Robert Kelley Award is given for distinguished service to the field of public history.

Award Winner

Lonnie G. Bunch III, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture

NCPH Founders Award

The NCPH Council of Past Presidents developed the Founders Award in 2015 to recognize those individuals who were present at the creation of NCPH and who played critical roles in the organization's success.

Award Winners

Jack M. Holl

Darlene R. Roth

Outstanding Public History Project Award

This award is presented for work completed within the previous two calendar years that contributes to a broader public reflection and appreciation of the past or that serves as a model of professional public history practice. NCPH acknowledges the generous support of Stevie and Ted Wolf for this award.

Award Winner

Mann-Simons Interpretive Enhancements, John Sherrer, Historic Columbia

Honorable Mention

Prisons Today: Questions in the Age of Mass Incarceration, Annie Anderson and Sean Kelley, Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site

NCPH Book Award

For the best new book about or growing out of public history theory, study, or practice.

Award Winner

James E. Young, University of Massachusetts Amherst, *The Stages of Memory: Reflections on Memorial Art, Loss, and the Spaces Between* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2016)

Honorable Mention

Michelle Moon, Newark Museum, *Interpreting Food at Museums and Historic Site* (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2016)

Michael C. Robinson Prize for Historical Analysis

Offered in alternating years, this prize recognizes historical studies that contribute directly to the formation of public policy.

Award Winner

Robert Lee, Florida Gulf Coast University and Joseph Vonasek, Auburn University, *Police and Fire Pensions in Florida: A Historical Perspective and Cause for Future Concerns*, Florida League of Cities and Florida City and County Management Association

Excellence in Consulting Award

The NCPH Excellence in Consulting Award recognizes outstanding contribution to the field of public history through consulting or contract work by recognizing professionals whose primary engagement with public history in the past five years is through consulting.

Group Award Winner

Jennifer Stevens, *Stevens Historical Research Associates* (SHRA), *Idaho Power Centennial Project*

Individual Award Winner

Alicia Barber, *Stories in Place* LLC

G. Wesley Johnson Award

Named in honor of the founding editor of *The Public Historian*, this award recognizes the most outstanding article appearing in the NCPH journal during the previous volume year.

Award Winner

Phillip Seitz, for "History Matters: What Happens When African Americans Confront Their Difficult Past." *The Public Historian* Vol. 38 No. 2.

Honorable Mention

Anne Mitchell Whisnant, East Carolina University and Marla Miller, University of Massachusetts Amherst for "Pulling from Outside, Pushing from Inside: *Imperiled Promise* and Change in the National Park Service." *The Public Historian* Vol. 38 No. 4.

Student Project Award

This award recognizes the contributions of student work to the field of public history and provides assistance for conference travel costs.

Award Winner

The Chrysler Village History Project, Rachel Boyle, Chelsea Denault, Maggie McClain, and Kelly Schmidt, Loyola University Chicago

New Professional Travel Awards

These travel awards assist individuals who are new to the field and practice of public history in attending the conference, helping them become more connected with other members of the profession early in their careers.

Historical Research Associates, Inc. (HRA) New Professional Travel Award

Lily Anne Welty Tamai, Japanese American National Museum & University of California, Los Angeles

NCPH New Professional Travel Award

Alyssa Constad, General Federation of Women's Clubs

Honorable Mention

Victoria Throop, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Graduate Student Travel Awards

The Graduate Student Travel Award provides assistance for conference travel costs for five graduate students who will present a session or poster or will participate in a working group at the annual meeting. Congratulations this year go to:

Aiden M. Bettine, DePaul University

Chris Fite, University of Pennsylvania

Cheryl Jiménez Frej, University of California, Santa Barbara

Leslie J. Leonard, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Harvee White, University of West Georgia

Public or “applied” history happens when historians and their various audiences collaborate in trying to make the past useful. It is the conceptualization and practice of historical activities with one’s public audience foremost in mind, and it generally takes place in settings beyond the traditional classroom.

The National Council on Public History (NCPH) is a nonprofit membership association that inspires public engagement with the past and serves the needs of practitioners in putting history to work in the world. NCPH builds community among historians, expands professional skills and tools, fosters critical reflection on historical practice, and publicly advocates for history and historians. Members of the organization include historical consultants, museum professionals, government historians, professors & students, archivists, teachers, cultural resource managers, curators, film & media producers, historical interpreters, policy advisors, and many others. Members confer at the annual meeting each spring and share their expertise in a scholarly journal (*The Public Historian*), in a quarterly newsletter, and in multiple online formats, such as the NCPH blog, *History@Work*. Learn more at <http://www.ncph.org>

NCPH relies on its endowment to support the awards program and a variety of other programs and projects that fulfill the organization's mission. We are especially grateful for major assistance from History™ and a National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant. (Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.)