Press Release

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

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Subject: Public History Awards for 2023

For Immediate Release

Indianapolis, IN, February 15, 2023 — Please join us in congratulating this year’s award winners for outstanding achievement in a variety of public history formats. We hope you will help us celebrate during the 2023 NCPH Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, during the Awards Breakfast and Keynote Address on Saturday, April 15. For more detailed information on our award winners visit https://bit.ly/2023NCPHAwards.

Outstanding Public History Project Award
These awards are presented for work that contribute to broader public reflection and appreciation of the past or that serve as a model of professional public history practice. NCPH acknowledges the generous support of Stevie and Ted Wolf that makes this award possible.

LARGE INSTITUTION AWARD WINNER
Reflections on Grief and Child Loss
Callie Hawkins, President Lincoln’s Cottage

SMALL INSTITUTION AWARD WINNER
The Peabody Ballroom Experience
Joseph Plaster, Winston Tabb Special Collections Research Center, Sheridan Libraries

HONORABLE MENTION
La Florida: The Interactive Digital Archive of the Americas
J. Michael Francis, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg Campus, and Rachel L. Sanderson, University of South Florida, Tampa Campus

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

AWARD WINNER
All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley’s Sack, A Black Family Keepsake
(Random House, 2021)
Tiya Miles, Harvard University
Grassroots Public History Award – Atlanta
This award recognizes an individual or community organization doing important public history work in their community. For the 2022-2023 awards cycle, the Grassroots Public History Award – Atlanta was open to any project completed within the state of Georgia.

AWARD WINNER
Chattahoochee Brick Company Descendants Coalition

Excellence in Consulting Awards
These awards recognize outstanding contributions to the field of public history through consulting or contract work.

GROUP AWARD WINNER
Georgia B. Williams Nursing Home Preservation Plan
Ethos Preservation and Landmark Preservation

GROUP AWARD HONORABLE MENTION
Connecticut Landmarks Portfolio Assessment
Guy Hermann, Sara Zarrelli, and Jacques Brunswick, Museum Insights

INDIVIDUAL AWARD WINNER
Black Montana's Heritage Places
Delia Hagen, Hagen Historical Consulting

Michael C. Robinson Prize for Historical Analysis
This biennial award, named for a pioneering public works historian who tirelessly promoted historical research as a component of policy formation, recognizes historical studies that contribute to the formation of public policy.

Idaho's Response to the 1918 Influenza Pandemic: ISHS Briefing Paper No. 1
HannaLore Hein, Idaho State Historical Society

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
“Public History in the Age of Insurrection: Confronting White Rage in Red States,”
The Public Historian Vol 44, No 3
Brian Murphy, Pope’s Tavern Museum and the Florence Indian Mound Museum, and Katie Owens-Murphy, University of North Alabama

Student Project Award
This award recognizes the contributions of student work to the field of public history and provides assistance for NCPH annual meeting travel costs.

There were no nominations and no winner, and the funds were reallocated to provide additional student travel awards. Please consider submitting your or your student’s project for the 2024 awards.
New Professional Travel Awards
These travel awards assist individuals who are new to the field and practice of public history in attending the NCPH annual meeting, helping them connect with other members of the profession early in their careers.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATES, INC. (HRA) AWARD
Onyx Montes, Define American

NCPH AWARD
Hannah Fradkin, The Claremont Colleges Library

Graduate Student Travel Awards
The Graduate Student Travel Award provides assistance for conference travel costs for five graduate students who will present a poster or will participate in a session or working group at the NCPH annual meeting. This year there are seven recipients as funds were reallocated from the Student Project Award. Congratulations this year go to:

Emma Awe, Carleton University
Natalie Coté, George Washington University
Paige Figanbaum, University of Nevada Las Vegas
Hannah LeComte, Duquesne University
JoCora Moore, North Carolina State University
Kristyn Scorsone, Rutgers University-Newark
Abigail Thomsen, University of Massachusetts Amherst

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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 and students, archivists, teachers, cultural resource managers, curators, film and 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), quarterly newsletter, and 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™. To help grow our future award and travel grant offerings, please consider giving or pledging to the endowment: http://ncph.org/giving/endowment.