

## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: WELCOME TO SALT LAKE CITY



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Welcome to majestic Salt Lake City and NCPH's joint 2024 annual meeting with the Utah Historical Society!

As we prepare to convene at the feet of the Wasatch Range and the Oquirrh Mountains for four days of deep conversation and reconnection with our colleagues, we acknowledge the multitude of rich, intersecting histories and communities that call this city home. This year's conference theme, *Historical Urgency*, animates our work as we face censorship in the media, political sphere, and in academe.



While the challenges of this cultural and political moment may appear grim, we find ourselves doubling down on a commitment to the core values of this work:

collecting and preserving the history of all of our communities, fearlessly communicating a full story of the past that acknowledges both the just and unjust moments and actors in that history, and stewarding these stories to meet the needs of our present moment. In the midst of this climate, I am grateful for our time together and for the ways that these meetings rejuvenate our practice as we engage with



"Mountain lake near Salt Lake City", Flickr image courtesy of ClarkHarrisinTonkawaOK.

the public, students, and other historians. We are lucky to participate in such conversations with our collaborators for the meeting: the Utah Historical Society. Their dedication and partnership has been crucial in planning a full and enriching experience over these several days.

Thank you to our Program Committee and their co-chairs, Rebecca Wingo and Holly George, who labored to construct a slate of sessions that will inform our practice for the coming year. These presentations, roundtables, discussions, and working groups will encourage us to think in careful and nuanced ways about doing public history in challenging conditions, making space for historically underrepresented points of view, and grappling with controversy in productive ways. I thank them for their hard work and care in shaping the program. Similarly, Greg Smoak and Jennifer Ortiz and their Local Arrangements Committee endeavored to welcome us into the rich public history community of Salt Lake City. I will think of

them with gratitude as we experience the historical sites of the surrounding area, and partake in the city's hospitality!

Of course, none of our time together in SLC would be possible without the tireless efforts of the NCPH staff. We come to the annual meeting to learn, grow, and recharge for a concentrated period of time, but for them, annual meeting orchestration is a year-long occupation. Join me in thanking them in April upon encounter at the registration desk, in individual sessions, and at our social gatherings!

I look forward to listening, learning, and engaging with you, the heart of our public history community, as we reflect and recommit to our work in this time of historical urgency.

With gratitude,  
KNM

*-Kristine Navarro-McElhaney is the President of NCPH and assistant director for the Voces Oral History Center at the University of Texas at Austin.*



### Call for volunteers!

Seeking photographers! We're looking for people to help us document NCPH 2024 in Salt Lake City, Utah! We use conference images in future programs, on our website, and in our quarterly newsletter. We'll cover the registration costs of four photographers in exchange for photos from a few key events at the conference. The only requirements: you should be 21+ years of age, attending NCPH 2024, and have your own camera. Please email [ncph@iupui.edu](mailto:ncph@iupui.edu) by January 15th 2024 with the subject line "Photo volunteer," tell us a little about your photography experience, and attach a couple of sample photos.



## NCPH COMMITTEE UPDATES

*These updates give a sampling of what NCPH volunteers are doing for the organization and the field of public history. The committees encourage your input throughout the year; committee chairs and members can be found at <http://bit.ly/NCPHcommittees>.*

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARK SERVICE COLLABORATION

This Advisory Committee advises and assists with the cooperative agreement between

NCPH and the National Park Service (NPS), by consulting on the selection of projects and project participants (but not selecting), advising the Board and NCPH staff on NPS issues, publicizing the program, and advocating for NPS within the organization.

Over this past year, our committee has reviewed and made comments on these new projects with NCPH that are beginning this year. NCPH has reviewed the applicants with the NPS and



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The support of the following, each a leader in the field and committed to membership at the Patron or Partner level, makes the work of the National Council on Public History possible.

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University of Massachusetts Boston, Dept. of History

University of Missouri - St. Louis, Museum Studies, Heritage, and Public History Program

University of Northern Iowa, Dept. of History

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**THANK YOU!**

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



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

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# CANDIDATES FOR THE 2024 NCPH ELECTION

Full candidate info at <http://bit.ly/NCPH2024Slate>.

Current board and committee members are listed at <http://bit.ly/NCPHcommittees>.

## Vice-President/President-Elect (one candidate for one position)

Nicole Moore, National Center for Civil and Human Rights and Independent Consultant

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

Rosalind Beiler, University of Central Florida

Elijah Gaddis, Auburn University

Donna Graves, Independent Public Historian

Skylee-Storm Hogan-Stacey, Know History

G. Samantha Rosenthal, Roanoke College

Angela Smith, North Dakota State University

## Board of Student Directors (two candidates for one position)

Alannah Graves, Bowling Green State University

W. Cole Wicker, University of Georgia

## Nominating Committee (four candidates for two positions)

Kristen Baldwin Deathridge, Appalachian State University

Michael Brown, Rochester Institute of Technology

Nicholas Graham, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Anne Lindsay, California State University, Sacramento

Ballots and candidate statements were distributed by email to members on November 17. Please contact [ncph@iupui.edu](mailto:ncph@iupui.edu) if you are a member and did not receive an electronic ballot. The election closes January 15, 2024. Your vote counts!



Sarah J. Eddy, "Collection of 'votes for women' buttons made by Mrs. Alice Park of Palo Alto Calif., 1922, Library of Congress.

## Welcome New Members!

Deborah Akins  
Harrogate, TN

Erin Aoyama  
Providence, RI

Connor Barnes  
Chicago, IL

Madelyn Bemisderfer  
Starkville, MS

Kemuel Benyehudah  
Detroit, MI

Michelle Berry  
Tucson, AZ

Martin Black  
Oakmont, PA

Aaron Blankenship  
Baltimore, MD

Kristen Blasingame  
Huntsville, AL

Ryan Booth  
Pullman, WA

Lara Bromyard  
Homestead, PA

Caitlyn Buesch  
Fair Oaks, CA

Marin Burke  
Chicago, IL

Avery Calvert  
Florence, AL

Mark Canavera  
Summerville, SC

Summer Carper  
Denver, CO

Ashley Cerku  
Ray, MI

Jessica Chavez  
Omaha, NE

John Cole  
Fishers, IN

Suzanne Cole  
Niles, MI

Dalena Collins  
Verona, PA

Colorado State University  
(Institutional)  
Ft. Collins, CO

Michelle Comstock  
Arvada, CO

Michelle Conceison  
Nashville, TN

Cumberland Gap National  
Historical Park (Institutional)  
Middlesboro, KY

Kevin den Dunnen  
Goderich, ON, Canada

Erin Dietrick  
Washington, DC

Sarah Dillon  
Brentwood, CA

Russell Drake  
Fort Collins, CO

Anna Duensing  
Charlottesville, VA

Madelyn Enlow  
Lawrence, KS

Sydney Freeman  
Moscow, ID

Alyssa Garcia  
Sacramento, CA

Amanda Gibson  
Sioux City, IA

Karina Gomez  
Fairfax, VA

Keesha Ha  
San Diego, CA

Nicholas Hamilton  
St John's, NL, Canada

Andrew Hammond  
Washington, DC

Cassandra Harper  
Westminster, CO

Casey Haughin-Scasny  
Goleta, CA

Kerry Howard  
Chelmsford, MA

Ingenium: Canada's Museums  
of Science and Innovation  
(Institutional)  
Ottawa, ON, Canada

John Jensen  
Pensacola, FL

Kristin Jorgensen  
Schuylerville, NY

Amanda Katz  
Vernal, UT

Ciara Koepke  
Alexandria, VA

Ezra Lanoue  
Berea, KY

League of Historical Societies of  
New Jersey (Institutional)  
Barneget, NJ

Stephen Lean  
Brooklyn, NY

Sarah Lee  
Chicago, IL

Peter Limbert  
Bowling Green, OH

Jennifer Lorenzetti  
Dayton, OH

Christina Loya  
Kansas City, KS

Michelle Martin  
Tahlequah, OK

Elizabeth Mesa  
Edna, TX

Cassidy Michonski  
Manchester, NH

J. Haley Milner  
Aiken, SC

Paige Milner  
London, ON, Canada

Abby Mullis  
Wilson, NC

Ruby Negron  
Orlando, FL

Trevor Noble  
Peekskill, NY

Josephene Ostenberg-Nichols  
Denver, CO

Lauren Pregler  
Farmers Branch, TX

Shannon Putnam  
London, ON, Canada

Danielle Rausch  
Kearns, UT

Nathan Riddle  
New York, NY

Gerry Robinson  
East Helena, MT

Jessica Robkin  
Oviedo, FL

Alana Rogers  
Bankston, AL

Stephanie Schwartz  
Princeton, NJ

Marion Simmons  
Burtonsville, MD

Justin Smith  
Urbandale, IA

Marissa Spear  
Springdale, AR

Adrian Spencer  
Silver Spring, MD

Eira Tansey  
Cincinnati, OH

Stephanie Vickers  
Washington, DC

Gerald Vincent  
Hartland, MI

Robert Vivas  
Hudson, NY

Edith Wallace  
Burtionsville, MD

Lauren Waller  
Los Angeles, CA

Janet Ward  
Norman, OK

Justin Wear  
Savannah, GA

Frankie Nicole Weaver  
Maryville, TN

Emily West  
Goose Creek, SC

Amy Williams  
Atlanta, GA

Alexis Wilson  
APO, AP

Michael Wohl  
Gilbert, AZ

**NCPH would like to extend a special thanks to our new patron member**

National Park Service Northeast Region (Patron)  
North Attleboro, MA

For a complete list of NCPH Patrons and Partners, visit [ncph.org/about/patronspartners/](http://ncph.org/about/patronspartners/)



# ACTIONS OF THE NCPH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*This summer and fall the board convened electronically and took the actions listed below.*



## ACTIONS OF THE NCPH BOARD



*At the May virtual meeting the board took the following actions:*

- Scheduled a virtual only Fall Board Meeting to be held October 21, 2023 via Zoom.
- Discussed the Board's plans and goals for 2023 fundraising.

*At the June virtual meeting the board took the following actions:*

- Approved minutes of the Fall 2022 and March 2023 Virtual Board Meetings.
- Discussed the idea of adding a graduate student representative to the Board and of growing the size of the Nominating Committee.

*Between the June and August virtual meetings the board took the following actions:*

- Approved the 2023-2028 Long Range Plan.

*At the August virtual meeting the board took the following actions:*

- Heard from *History@Work* Managing Editor about the history, purpose, and current work of the blog.

- Approved the minutes of the Spring 2023 and Virtual June 2023 Board Meetings.
- Approved amendments to the bylaws that included:
  - Removing the digital media editor appointed board position.
  - Creating one additional elected board member position.
    - Ensuring that additional elected member is a student.
  - Amending the 2 absence rule for board members.
  - Amending the Past President position to NOT be required to chair the Long Range Planning Committee.
- Brainstormed potential members for a new Labor Task Force convened to assist with Long Range Plan tasks related to labor and labor advocacy.

*Between the August and October virtual meetings the board took the following actions:*

- Amended the Financial Policies and Procedures document, with the support of the Finance Committee, to allow for ACH payments out of the NCPH checking account.

*At the October virtual meeting the board took the following actions:*

- Reviewed the organization's memorandums of agreement and understanding.
- Reviewed the work of the Executive Director and *The Public Historian* Editor.

*At the Fall Board Meeting hosted on Zoom, the board took the following actions:*

- Approved minutes of the August 2023 Virtual Board meeting.
- Heard a report from the President on the state of the work of the Board.
- Heard reports from the Executive Director and Treasurer and reviewed the organization's finances.
- Voted to adopt the 2022 Financial Audit and Form 990.
- Voted to adopt the 2024 operating budget.
- Heard reports from *The Public Historian* Editor and NCPH Executive Director.
- Reviewed reports from the organization's committee chairs and discussed ways to keep committees supported in their work.
- Began planning for the board-assigned tasks in the 2023-2028 Long Range Plan.

*During this time, the Advocacy Committee of the Board also voted to endorse the following:*

- A statement from the American Historical Association opposing exclusion of LGBTQ+ History in Florida.
- A letter of concern regarding workplace conditions and site usage at the Museum of the American Revolution.
- A statement from the American Council of Learned Societies on the recent Supreme Court ruling on affirmative action.
- A statement from the American Council of Learned Societies on fighting for an ambitious vision of public higher education in America for West Virginia University.

## NCPH COMMITTEE UPDATES // CONT'D. FROM PAGE 1

consultants have been hired. We wanted to add that the response to proposals this year has been greater than last year, and we were pleased to see so many qualified applicants and the level of interest from NCPH members.

- Pecos National Historical Park Oral History Project and Administrative History. We received 12 letters of interest and Park and NCPH staff selected Rachel Boyle and Melissa Coles as the consultants.
- Administrative History of the Civil War Defense of Washington (CWDW), administered by Rock Creek Park. We received 10 letters of interest and Park and NCPH staff selected Joan Zenzen as the consultant.

- Longfellow House-Washington's Headquarters National Historic Site, Special History Study. We received 11 letters of interest and Park and NCPH staff selected Whitney Martinko as the consultant.

Our committee has helped NCPH review the following proposals, which were scheduled to close for selection as this update was being written.

- Historic Resource Study Addendum on African American History, Paterson Great Falls Historical Park
- Historic Resource Study, Petersburg National Battlefield, Eastern Front Unit

We look forward to continuing to serve NCPH in the coming year.

*-Submitted by chair Ann McCleary*

### ADVOCACY COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD

At this time of significant need for advocacy on behalf of public history and public historians, the Advocacy Committee has continued its multi-year process of considering the meaning of advocacy in the NCPH space. The committee has continued to take up its charge to review the organization's Advocacy Policy, last revised in 2017. With a draft of revised policy language in hand, the committee headed into the Annual Meeting in Atlanta looking to gather thoughts and feedback from a range of participants. As one part of that effort, the committee held a "listening session" on Friday afternoon in Atlanta. Several committee members also participated in the working group entitled "Toward a Statement of Principles for Activist Public History," which

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provided insights and sparked conversations relevant to the Advocacy Policy.

After the Annual Meeting, in May, members of the Advocacy Committee participated in the NCPH Public History Educators Meetup session on “Public History in Politicized Environments.” Then, in July, the Advocacy Committee held a Zoom “Open Meeting” to engage in further conversations with NCPH members about the ways in which the committee and the organization can best meet their needs in the advocacy realm. One concept that emerged from these various discussions is the prospect of advocacy work that goes beyond a case-by-case approach to embrace more of a resource-based approach, with an emphasis on providing a forum for sharing experiences, challenges, strategies, and even templates.

The Advocacy Pillar of the new NCPH Long Range Plan (LRP), adopted June 27, 2023, is also an important guide for Advocacy Committee work. As the committee looks to complete its policy-revision process and to think anew about advocacy work, the goal of aligning these efforts with the LRP is top of mind.

A list of recent advocacy actions is available in the Advocacy section under the “What is Public History?” heading on the NCPH home page.

*-Submitted by co-chairs Michael Brown and Adrienne Burke*

## BOARD-LED SUBCOMMITTEE ON GENDER DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The board-led gender discrimination and sexual harassment subcommittee has been continuing its work. At the annual meeting in Atlanta, we hosted a productive session with a small but generative audience, “Moving Towards Restorative Justice: What a Policy on Discrimination & Harassment may look like for NCPH.” Throughout the spring and summer, we investigated the potential for a *History@Work* roundtable on the survey report, and issued a call for participants. After coming together in the fall and discussing with NCPH staff, we’ve determined that perhaps it would be better to invite various NCPH committees to consider partnering with the GDSH on virtual discussions that can support various constituencies on dealing with discrimination and harassment issues. Work on the policy proposals is ongoing, though for various reasons the policy team has taken a break since the annual meeting. We have reached out to the new co-chairs of IDEA to see if that committee wants to continue discussing the proposal drafts. The IDEA committee reviewed the policy drafts in late October.

*-Submitted by co-chairs Kristen Baldwin Deathridge and lara kelland*

## COMMITTEE FOR GOVERNMENT HISTORIANS

The Committee for Government Historians supports NCPH members who work for or with local, state, and federal government agencies, recognizing that government workers’ experiences and needs can be different from those of other public historians. With representatives from local, state, and federal government agencies, we strive to promote public history done by governments throughout the United States.

The main priority for the Committee this term is supporting NCPH’s 2023-2028 Long Range Plan. As the primary for the goal “Research and develop a way to support government employees who are often unable to speak openly about issues in their workplaces,” we are currently soliciting volunteers to start laying the groundwork to achieve this goal.

In addition to the Long Range Plan, the Committee has a number of items up for discussion, including exploring ways to create community among government historian members of the NCPH. Possibilities include events at the annual meeting such as a Dine Around, a “group” in the NCPH database, regular posts on *History@Work*, bumping up our X/Twitter presence (@NCPHGovHist), and virtual events. We are also gauging Committee members’ interest in hosting a third virtual open meeting—we keep a running list of possible topics to explore that are relevant to the government public history community. Please keep an eye out for any upcoming Committee-sponsored activities including something for the annual meeting in April.

If NCPH members have any interest in sharing their thoughts on any of these topics, please reach out to us at: [NCPHgovhistorians@gmail.com](mailto:NCPHgovhistorians@gmail.com).

*-Submitted by co-chairs Rebekah Dobrasko and Jessie Kratz*

## CONSULTANTS COMMITTEE

The Consultants Committee’s focus this year is in building community and expanding professional tools and skills through mentoring. We hosted Grumpy Hours (in contrast to “happy hours”) in September and November. These events hold space for commiseration, community, and much-needed venting for those working in public history. Participants raved about them, and asked us to hold them every other month, so we’ll be hosting another one after the New Year. We’re active in promoting the NCPH Consultant’s Directory, and restarted our Twitter—follow us at @NCPHconsultants. We will be hosting our annual Consultant’s Workshop at the 2024 NCPH Annual Meeting as well as a structured conversation around developing Best Practices for Consulting.

*-Submitted by co-chairs Heather Carpini and Kathleen Conti*

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Development Committee met in August and September to decide on focus areas and create a plan for working together for the year ahead. We set our bimonthly meeting dates (beginning in September), and decided to work with a subcommittee structure to address the committee charge and Long Range Planning activities. The group decided to focus on providing preliminary ideas and research/benchmarking related to the four areas of the LRP below:

1. A and D: Research and pursue local partnerships and sponsorships for small stipends for event organizers and presenters as well as publication contributors (A) + Develop fundraising plan focusing on DEIA work and community support (D).
2. B: Identify options for new revenue stream models to support self-sufficiency, including bringing in external advisors/experts.
3. C: Grow consistent annual contributions to Endowment and Annual Funds.
4. G (with D in mind): Work to provide public historians with greater financial support and opportunities beyond conference scholarships.

Subcommittees started meeting in October, and will report back on their preliminary meetings at our all-committee meeting in November. We hope the subcommittees will be a way to start setting out a plan over the course of the next year as to how we can best begin working toward the LRP goals.

*-Submitted by co-chairs Bill Bryans and Joe Cialdella*

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee met on October 3rd to review and discuss the draft budget for 2024 and the draft audit report for the 2022 fiscal year. The committee approved the draft 2024 budget and recommended it to the board with the caveat that the board revisit the board travel expense line item mid-way through 2024 as an option to reduce an expense line if needed. Regarding the Finance Committee’s responsibilities in the new strategic plan, we also discussed assignments to draft a staffing plan and to study costs related to establishing an independent executive office with a deadline of January 12, 2024 to report to the committee.

*-Submitted by co-chairs Rosalind Beiler and Amy Wilson*

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The NCPH Membership Committee is excited about the new Long Range Plan and the new initiatives the committee will undertake and support. We’re especially looking forward to collaborating with other committees on shared goals over the next few years.

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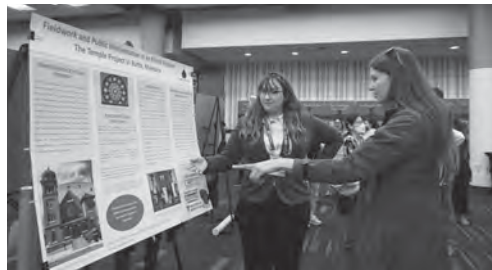
We are brainstorming the latest iteration of our pre-conference event (aka "NCPH From the Pros") as well as our usual New Member Breakfast and the Members Meeting. Our committee is excited about gathering in-person once again and we look forward to supporting the organization in Salt Lake City and beyond!

-Submitted by co-chairs Kacie Lucchini Butcher and Julie Peterson

## NEW PROFESSIONAL AND STUDENT COMMITTEE

The NPSC continues to engage in lively cross-committee collaboration through its virtual Public History Hangout (PHH) series. Recordings are available on NCPH's YouTube page. Look for new virtual Public History Hangouts over the next few months.

- Student Board Position Information - August 23, 2023. This session used a conversational question and answer style to explain the scope and procedures for the new Student NCPH board position. It was co-sponsored with the Nominating Committee (NC) and co-moderated by Sarah Marsom (NC) and MaryKate (NPSC).
- Poster Proposals - September 14, 2023. This session promoted the Annual Meeting's poster session and student awards and how it benefits student members and anyone interested in participating in the annual meeting. This PHH featured Emma Awe and Abigail Thomsen, former poster presenters and award winners, and was moderated by MaryKate.



2023 NCPH Poster Session in Atlanta, Georgia. Image courtesy Sharon Leon.

NPSC meetings were held in May, July, August, September, and October. In July the committee thanked outgoing members and outgoing co-chair Brian Whetstone, and Kelsey Fritz completed a fresh, updated draft of the *Public History Navigator*. The co-chairs reviewed the draft '23-'24 charges with the committee, initiated updates to those charges, established goals and roles, and organized project and work groups. Many of the NPSC's charges are new items stemming from the Long Range Plan and center around networking and mentorship, which our committee looks forward to exploring.

Our committee adopted a new project-based structure to more efficiently and concurrently complete charges. The first four projects will focus on the following:

1. Completing a new version of the *Public History Navigator*
2. Developing an e-survey for new professional and student members.
3. Additional Public History Hangout events.
4. Communications/social media.

New ideas for social media engagement have emerged, including showcasing student work. Committee members have also started testing the NCPH community website features exploring how to improve member networking.

For new professional and student members, be on the lookout for an e-survey that will ask you for your input about how our committee can best serve you.

-Submitted by co-chairs MaryKate Smolenski and Michael Yee

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

In addition to developing a slate of candidates for the Board of Directors and Nominating Committee for the 2024-2027 term, the Nominating Committee has been thinking through ways to ensure greater diversity and representation amongst who is considered for these leadership roles, which is underscored in NCPH's Long Range Plan. An exciting development includes a newly added board position dedicated to student representation within the organization. This idea came from a student who raised it to the NCPH leadership. After discussions amongst NCPH staff, officers, board of directors, and the Nominating Committee, the organization's by-laws were amended to incorporate this new board position. NCPH members can now take part in this historic election of the first student board member.

In order to encourage stakeholders to submit nominations for board and nominating committee candidates, the Nominating Committee collaborated with NCPH staff and board members to hold two virtual information sessions in August, one specifically for students, to provide further information on what service in these leadership roles entails. Upon welcoming new members Krista McCracken and Nicole Martinez-LeGrand, the members of the Nominating Committee kicked off their work to determine the next slate of candidates for the upcoming election. This year, the Nominating Committee identified candidates for three existing board positions, a new student board position, Vice-president/President-elect, and two Nominating Committee positions. While nominations are now closed for this year, the Nominating Committee highly encourages all NCPH members to submit nominations for individuals who would be good candidates for the Board of Directors or Nominating Committee for next year's election. In the meantime, turn to page 3 of this newsletter to see this year's slate of candidates and how you can cast your vote.

-Submitted by co-chairs Kristen Hayashi and Sarah Marsom



publichistorians When I started my PhD program at NC State, I knew I wanted something different for my dissertation. To be honest, writing my MA thesis was a struggle! It was hard finding sources, trying to get in contact with people, everything. When I began my program in 2018, I needed change. In fact, I changed my dissertation topic at least 3 times before landing on my current topic.

I know my dissertation had to include 3 things: Black women, the Civil Rights Movement, and Public Commemoration. After doing my research, I stumbled across two Black women. First, was Gloria Richardson, spokeswoman of the Cambridge Nonviolent Action Committee in Cambridge, Maryland. Many may recognize her from the iconic image of her pushing a bayonet away as she walked down the street in front of National Guardsmen's. Her story was quite unique. After watching her father, a well-known pharmacist, die from a heart attack because he could not receive adequate healthcare, Richardson became involved in the local civil rights movement. Her actions and vocal leadership gained her national attention. She was often criticized for her outspoken nature.

The above screenshots a snippet of JoCora Moore's (IG @jocorachanteel) NCPH Instagram "Takeover" in 2023. JoCora Moore is a PhD candidate at North Carolina State University in the Public History Program. Her week-long takeover brings us through the joys (and occasional woes) of graduate school, writing and researching the dissertation, and her day-to-day tasks as the Community Engagement Coordinator at Historic Columbia in Columbia, SC.

Check out her incredible work and that of many others on our Instagram @publichistorians!

Our Membership committee manages all NCPH Instagram Takeovers. Takeovers are a great way to network, connect, and share your work with the public history community. They can be done by people in the field, adjacent to the field, in school for public history, or public history nerds! Interested in hosting one of your own? Get in touch with Membership Committee co-chair Kacie Butcher at [contact@kibutcher.com](mailto:contact@kibutcher.com).

Last spring we formed subcommittees to focus on events and initiatives beyond the annual meeting and to foster a strong sense of community amongst the committee. These subcommittees met this fall to explore ideas including facilitating a series of regional (in-person or virtual) membership meet-ups, creating a guide for members to host their own events, and ideas for better engagement on social media. We have been convening our committee on a more regular basis to keep up the momentum the annual meeting always generates.

Committee members continue to reach out to lapsed NCPH members to encourage them to renew their membership and to promote membership benefits like discounted attendance at the upcoming conference in Salt Lake City. We also continue to support NCPH staff in promoting the organization on social media, including facilitating Instagram takeovers and managing the group's Facebook page and X/Twitter accounts. Members of our committee also monitor and update the Digital Projects Directory, which currently contains more than 175 entries! The social media subcommittee met with Sarah Singh to update her on the current standing of our social media accounts and to brainstorm stronger engagement.

# ANNUAL GIVING HELPS SUSTAIN A HIGH IMPACT ORGANIZATION

JOSEPH STANHOPE CIALDELLA / JOESCIA@UMICH.EDU



Ever since I first became a member of NCPH as a graduate student in 2010, I have kept coming back because of the community, energy, impact, and connection to colleagues and the field NCPH provides. Events like the annual meeting, mini-cons, and working groups, in addition to resources like *History@Work* and *The Public Historian*, have provided me with opportunities to learn, grow, and engage with the field. Creating

and sustaining these kinds of experiences and materials that have individual and collective impact requires time, money, and staff.

Each year, NCPH calls on its membership to donate to the Annual Fund. That's because membership only covers approximately 25% of organizational expenses. In fact, 42% of memberships are subsidized by your donations, which helps create a more economically inclusive organization with tiers of membership with rates for students and new professionals. That's where the NCPH Annual Fund comes into play.

The Annual Fund provides crucial support for NCPH's yearly operating budget: it provides support for daily operating expenses - critical to ensuring we have a paid staff and smooth operations. It sustains and improves our advocacy and outreach activities. It funds new committee projects that help the field tackle systemic challenges and imagine new futures. It fosters public history training with our curriculum and training materials. It provides awards that bring students and new professionals to our annual conferences. It recognizes outstanding scholarship and innovation in public history practice. Our print and electronic publications—*The Public Historian*, *History@Work*—our

annual meetings, digital content, and our mini-cons all benefit from contributions to the Annual Fund. Our goal is to increase the resources available to NCPH each year, allowing us to more quickly and effectively meet the needs that arise within the public history field.

In the September newsletter, Dee Harris challenged us to think about what we get from NCPH and what we give in return. As a graduate student, NCPH provided me with a sense of community and shared purpose for historical work in public that I was struggling to find elsewhere. While no dollar amount can really ever reflect the importance of the learning and community I've received through NCPH, it is because of what these experiences have meant to me that I have chosen to give what I can in return.

This year, thanks to the generosity of membership and donors, NCPH has already raised two thirds of the amount required annually to cover these expenses. But that still leaves us with more to raise by the end of the year in order to ensure NCPH can continue to support the public history community. Each person's situation varies. As we look to raise the remaining funds needed, we ask that you give a gift that makes you feel good. I hope that you will choose to join me and make NCPH a philanthropic priority. Giving as generously as your circumstances allow truly makes an important difference to the field.

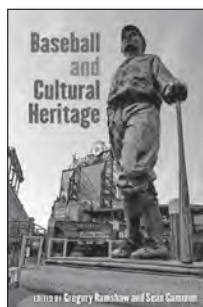
Whether you are an individual new to the organization or have been with NCPH throughout your career, your donation, whether \$5 or \$5,000, helps sustain our organization and prepares us to serve one another and the field into the future. Donations can be made at any time via <https://ncph.org/giving/overview/>.

*-Joseph Stanhope Cialdella is Assistant Director of Internships and Public Scholarship at University of Michigan - Rackham Graduate School and serves as co-chair of NCPH's Development Committee.*

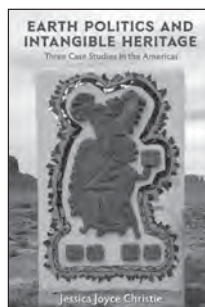


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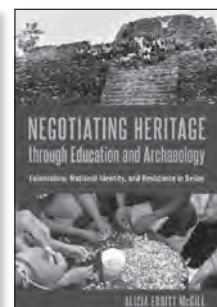
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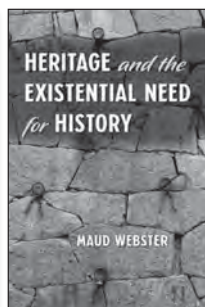
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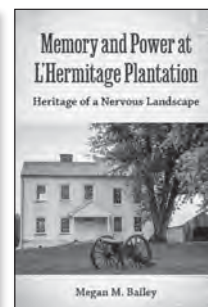
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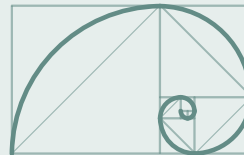
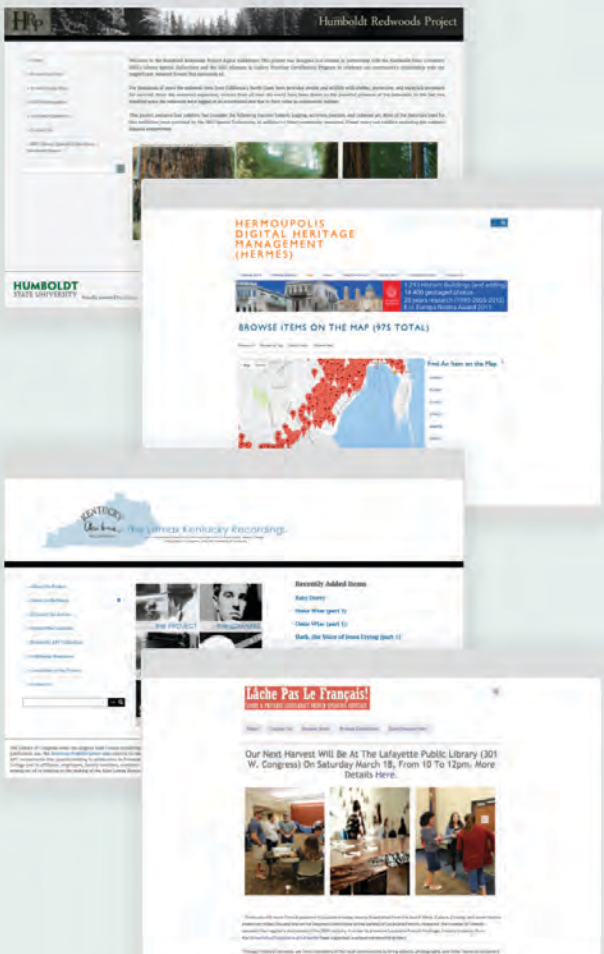
ISSN 08912610

**Editors:** Stephanie Rowe and Sarah Singh

**Editorial Assistance:** Meghan Hillman,  
Hunter Marsh, and Stasia Tanzer

**Design:** Brooke Hamilton

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