NC HISTORY PH @ WORK

Call for *History@Work* Pitches on "Advocacy": success stories in the field of Public History.

In-line with the "Advocacy Pillar" of NCPH's 2023-2028 Long Range Plan, *History@Work* invites prospective volunteer authors to submit pitches, one-three paragraphs in length, defining "advocacy" in their particular area of public history work. All too often our stories of lessons learned are seen as too difficult to write about, are seen as depressing, or are confined to one-off discussions. The NCPH Advocacy Committee and *History@Work* Editorial Committee seek pitches for blog posts that focus on the incremental nature of advocacy, modeling successes in the field of public history while also serving as a how-to for our peers, new professionals and students alike. As ever, public historians at all career levels, emergent or retired, are invited to contribute no matter where they practice public history.

The term "advocacy" can be nebulous, until it isn't! For examples of how "advocacy" throughout the field has been addressed in the *History@Work* blog format, see below and <u>explore the #advocacy tag on *H@W*</u>.

We are open to a variety of responses, but some specific interest areas and examples we have been thinking about include:

• The role of public history and the public historian in the midst of our fraught political moment (e.g. the cancellation of DEIB funding across the nation.).

- This issue is explored by NCPH President Denise Meringolo in the September 2023 PHN contribution <u>"Advocacy is not a</u> <u>choice"</u>
- Labor in the field and/or at your institution
 - This issue was explored at the NCPH 2023 annual meeting working group, <u>"Empowering the Public History Workplace"</u>
- Principles inspired by community organizing that have been applied to your public history advocacy work
 - This issue is explored in the following H@W posts:
 - <u>"Discovering activism and advocacy in historic</u> preservation through my grandparents furniture"
 - <u>"Who Should Tell the Story?" The Pennhurst Haunted</u> Asylum and the Pennhurst Museum in Public History"
- The inspiring principles which frame your public history work or research and inform how *you* define "advocacy"
 - This issue is explored in the following H@W posts:
 - <u>"Practicing public history on Wikipedia"</u>
 - <u>"Join Us in a Dream: A National Museum of Disability</u>
 <u>History and Culture</u>"

We welcome diverse perspectives that contextualize contemporary issues related to advocacy in the field of public history. We seek to publish a series of posts that act as a sustainable model of successes in the field. Prospective essays may have more than one author, and prospective contributors are welcome to propose Q&A interview formats on this topic. Read more about our pitch process <u>here</u>. Send pitches or questions to us at <u>historyatwork@ncph.org</u>.