



NCPH Annual Meeting
March 26-29, 2025
Montréal, Québec, Canada

2025 NCPH Awards

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 2025 NCPH Annual Meeting in Montréal, Québec, Canada, during the Awards Breakfast and Keynote Address on Saturday, March 29.

Outstanding Public History Project Award

These awards are presented for work completed within the previous two calendar years 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. Award committee members: Lauren Cohen (chair), Rebecca Wingo, Callie Hawkins, and Amy Durrell.

Large Institution Award Winner

Ancestral Spaces: People of African Descent at Tudor Place

Rob DeHart, Tudor Place Historic House & Garden

For ten months, *Ancestral Spaces: People of African Descent at Tudor Place* was the only tour available at the federal-style mansion and garden known for its familial ties to Martha Washington. We were impressed by the staff's commitment to challenge the power dynamics inherent in the historic house through the experiences and voices of its enslaved. Rather than including these perspectives as a supplement, the traditional house tour was fundamentally reimagined, in collaboration with the descendant community and the Ancestral Spaces Advisory Committee, including portraits on the walls to the tableware reconstructed from pottery shards. The high quality of their research coupled with their thoughtful and innovative interpretation is a model for other sites with equally complex histories.

Large Institution Honorable Mention

History & Hope for Climate Action: An Interpretive Toolkit for the National Park Service

Donna Graves, Independent Historian and Urban Planner, and **Elizabeth Villano**, National Park Service

Small Institution Award Winner

Co-Creating Southern Alberta Japanese Canadian Histories: The Bunka Centre and Nikkei Memory Capture Project Heritage Collaboration

Carly Adams, University of Lethbridge; **Darren Aoki**, University of Plymouth (United Kingdom); and **Michelle Day Miles**, Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden

Through oral histories and deep engagement with community, this unique and meaningful collaboration between the Bunka Centre at the Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden and the Nikkei Memory Capture Project returned the rich stories of southern Alberta's Japanese Canadians to the community and made them publicly accessible in an evocative and transformative storytelling approach. This project with its marriage of place, memory, and story is an exemplary model of what is possible when organizations engage with communities and individuals to tell stories that enrich our understanding of the historical,

social, and cultural contributions of its people. The collaboration reflects the community that nurtures the Garden and Southern Alberta.

Small Institution Honorable Mention

Refusing to Forget

Board of Directors: Christopher Carmona, Our Lady of the Lake University; Juan Carmona, Donna High School; Benjamin Heber Johnson, Loyola University; Sonia Hernández, Texas A&M University; Leah LaGrone, Weber State University; Monica Muñoz Martinez, University of Texas at Austin; John Morán González, University of Texas at Austin; and Annette M. Rodríguez, University of Texas at Austin

NCPH Book Award

The NCPH Book Award recognizes outstanding scholarship that addresses the theory and/or practice of public history or that includes the products of public history work. Award committee members: Donna Sack (chair), Charlene Fletcher, Jessica Taylor, and Michelle Delaney.

Award Winner

Indigenous Archival Activism: Mohican Interventions in Public History and Memory

(University of Minnesota Press, 2024)

Rose Miron, Newberry Library

Informed by her years of collaboration with the Stockbridge-Munsee Mohican Nation, Rose Miron's work explores the decades of work on the part of Mohican women towards Indigenous access to their own histories, data sovereignty, and Mohican-led public representations of Indigenous history. This book is a model for Indigenous archivists, citizens, and activists in a moment when relationships between the United States and Indigenous nations remain in flux, but it also clarifies pathways for scholars and stewards of settler-colonial archives towards ethical collaborations with Indigenous people.

Grassroots Public History Award – Montréal

This award recognizes an individual or community organization doing important public history work in their community. For the 2024-2025 awards cycle, the Grassroots Public History Award – Montréal was open to any project completed within the province of Quebec. Award committee members: Lauren O'Brien (co-chair), Mariana Brandman (co-chair), Marcus Smith, Andrea Manolov, and Jenn Edginton.

Award Winner

Super Boat People Collective

Remy Chhem, Marie-Ève Samson, and Eva-Loan Ponton-Pham

The members of Super Boat People use history to bring together Southeast Asians living in Montréal and to foster intergenerational communication. We commend the organization for centering their efforts in the heart of the community through participatory workshops and popular exhibitions, while also striving to integrate oral history and public history best practices. The organization's mission to reclaim Southeast Asian refugee stories and to advocate for a fuller and more authentic representation of their lived realities exemplifies the spirit of the NCPH Grassroots Public History Award.

Honorable Mention

Je Suis Montréal, represented by **Taina Mueth**

Excellence in Consulting Awards

These awards recognize outstanding contributions to the field of public history through consulting or contract work. Award committee members: Taylor Brookins (chair), Kayla Blackman, and Richard Josey.

Group Award Winner

Plays in Place LLC

Represented by **Patrick Gabridge**

Plays in Place LLC's 2024 projects offer a highly creative and innovative approach to public history through their place-based performances. Their site-specific theater productions bring complex historical narratives to life, offering immersive and thought-provoking experiences. Plays in Place consistently tailors their work to meet the specific needs of their clients while maintaining the highest standards of public history. Their collaborations with organizations like the National Parks of Boston and Mount Auburn Cemetery demonstrate a commitment to producing historically rigorous and culturally enriching projects. In addition, their post-performance conversations with historians and scholars also deserve mention, as well as the glowing letters of recommendation from project partners that highlighted the Plays in Place team's collaborative spirit, creative work, and professionalism.

Individual Award Winner

Recovering Black History in Keene, New Hampshire

Kabria Baumgartner, Northeastern University

Kabria Baumgartner's work in *Recovering Black History in Keene, New Hampshire*, exemplifies best practices in public history, blending collaboration, creativity, and the transformative power of storytelling. Through projects like the *Let None Be Excluded* exhibition and the *Newburyport Black History Initiative*, she has amplified the voices of underrepresented communities, offering a richer and more inclusive understanding of history. Her leadership and meticulous research showcase public history's ability to challenge existing narratives by involving many different entities, organizations, and individual voices. Particularly commendable is Baumgartner's ability to steer a project that involved contributions from public history graduate students and citizen archivists. Her work reflects a deep commitment to serving diverse audiences by creating accessible, meaningful experiences that encourage thoughtful reflection and connection.

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 journal during the previous volume year. NCPH acknowledges the generous support of Stan Hordes of HMS Associates in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and many of his friends for underwriting this award. Award committee members: Sarah Fling (chair), Steven Mooradian, and Harvee White.

Award Winner

"Recasting Uncle Billy: r/ShermanPosting, Digital History, and the Meaning of the American Civil War in the Twenty-First Century,"

The Public Historian Vol 46, No 1

Benjamin Jenkins, National Archives and Records Administration and Independent Public History Researcher

In the article "Recasting Uncle Billy: r/ShermanPosting, Digital History, and the Meaning of the American Civil War in the Twenty-First Century," Benjamin Jenkins offers a unique exploration of public and digital history through the lens of Reddit. Not only is the conversation surrounding American memory of the

Civil War timely and relevant, but Jenkins' article truly meets history consumers where they are: online. Rather than disparaging social media as a form of public history, the article demonstrates how public history discourse can flourish online and does so in an engaging, accessible, and humorous way. Memes and other internet quips are widely relatable to the public, particularly to young people. Not only does Jenkins acknowledge that online public history discourse is the way of the future, but he also embraces this new way of consumption, providing an intriguing look at how public historians and internet-goers present the past online.

Diversity Travel Award

Launched in 2024, these travel grants support attendance at the NCPH Annual Meeting for representatives of minority-supporting institutions, including but not limited to universities (including HBCUs, HSIs, etc.), museums, historic sites, and other organizations that base their primary work in supporting marginalized communities through public history, broadly defined. Award committee members: Skylee-Storm Hogan-Stacy (chair), Monique Davila, and Elizabeth DeBord.

Vanessa Hines, The Stagville Memorial Project, Durham, North Carolina
Susan Huynh, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Student Project Award

This award is given to an outstanding public history student project initiated as academic coursework and implemented and recognized beyond the classroom for its contribution to the field of public history. Award committee members: LaQuanda Walters Cooper (chair), Ari Green, Tamara Feinstein, and Monica Mercado.

Award Winner

Reflection, Resilience, and Restoration: 40 Years of Women's and Gender Studies at UNC Charlotte
Staci Batchelor, University of North Carolina Charlotte

A #CampusHistories project, the digital zine *Reflection, Resilience, and Restoration: 40 Years of Women's and Gender Studies* was developed as part of a graduate digital public history course and facilitated by the Women's and Gender Studies program Carver/Cloninger fellowship. The zine translates a variety of existing archival materials and oral history interviews into an accessible history of the Women's and Gender Studies program at UNC Charlotte. The committee was impressed by the project's deep research, responsiveness to community feedback, and innovative design.

Honorable Mention

LGBTQ Center of South Bend Oral History and Poster Exhibit
Phoenix McClellan, St. Mary's College

New Professional Travel Awards

New Professional Travel Awards are for individuals who are new to the field and practice of public history. These two grants assist new professionals in attending the NCPH conference, helping them connect with other members of the profession early in their careers. NCPH acknowledges the generous support of Historical Research Associates, Inc. (HRA) for underwriting one of these awards. Award committee members: Susan Asbury (chair), Taylor Voltz, and Ann Abney.

HRA Travel Award Winner

Alyssa Moore, Intrepid Museum

NCPH Travel Award Winner

Noah G. Price, World Heritage USA

This year's New Professional Award Winners, Alyssa Moore and Noah G. Price, were chosen from a large pool of qualified applicants. Committee members were impressed by Moore's professional commitment to collections care and her enthusiasm to present her research about community-centered historical podcasting at the upcoming NCPH meeting. Members of the selection committee were equally impressed by Price's explanation of his historical passions and journey to his current position, working at an organization dedicated to facilitating conversation within communities about how to best interpret monuments and markers. The committee felt that both new professionals would benefit greatly from being able to further network and grow from conversations with colleagues in the field. Committee members would like to thank all of the applicants who applied for the travel awards, and we appreciate their dedication and work in the various fields of public history.

Graduate Student Travel Awards

The Graduate Student Travel Awards provide 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 NCPH annual meeting. Award committee members: LaQuanda Walters Cooper (chair), Ari Green, Tamara Feinstein, and Monica Mercado.

Congratulations this year go to the following:

Mila Kaut, Northwestern University

Connor Joseph, University of Kansas

Alison Moon, Washington State University

Kayley Schacht, Indiana University Indianapolis

James Sun, University of California, Berkeley

Congratulations to the 2025 award recipients, and thank you award selection committees!

Submissions for the 2026 NCPH Book Award and Robert Kelley Memorial Award are due November 1, 2025, and all other award submissions are due December 1, 2025. Please see www.ncph.org for details.

NCPH relies on its endowment to support the awards program and a variety of other programs and projects that fulfill the organization's mission. A primary goal of our *2020 Vision Endowment Campaign* was to "expand travel grants and award offerings to increase diversity and inclusion in the organization and field" and enabled the creation of the Grassroots Public History Award first awarded in 2022 and the Diversity Travel Awards first awarded in 2024. To help continue to grow our future award and travel grant offerings, please consider giving to the NCPH Endowment: <http://ncph.org/giving/endowment>.

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>.