

Understand the past.
Engage in the present.
Create a better tomorrow.

Historical Society of Pennsylvania's 2012 Annual

REPORT

die gänzlich entzündet
freuet, wenn Liebe anbrennet
die Himmels Begier. 156.



bricht im Herzen auf
auch Kräfte uns darreiche zum
Vogels Leben. 158.



schmeckt einem Kris
ses peine, die weil man da finde
158.



“Let Freedom Ring”

A letter from the president:

This past year, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania made significant steps forward to improve services and share our resources with our growing audience. Last February, we launched a redesigned website, which now attracts more than a half a million visitors each year. In addition, HSP partnered with Ancestry.com, the world’s largest family history resource, to digitize and post online more than 7.5 million of HSP’s genealogical records.

Our Digital Library, a searchable online image database, has doubled in size, now with more than 57,000 images. Our staff most recently added images that document the history of ethnic and immigrant groups, including genealogical records from Italian American families, woodblock prints by Japanese artist Hiroshige II, and beautifully illustrated German American hymnbooks (pictured on cover). It is now possible to purchase digital images and archival prints from our collections online.

As we improved our online services, we also remained focused on our greatest strength—our world renowned collection. This fiscal year, HSP acquired several important collections, including diaries penned by Philadelphia publisher Mathew Carey. More than 4,400 researchers (including 320 middle and high school students) visited our library and another 4,000 used our reference and research-by-mail services. Our collections were the basis for this year’s two issues of the illustrated history magazine *Pennsylvania Legacies*; one issue examined political reform in Pennsylvania while the other traced the history and development of Philadelphia’s Chinatown. HSP published four issues of its scholarly journal, the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, including special editions examining the early drafts of the Constitution and Pennsylvania during the Civil War.

At our annual Founder’s Award dinner last May, author David McCullough remarked, “One of the manifold lessons of history—one of the clearest and maybe one of the most important—is that very little of consequence was ever accomplished alone.” The Historical Society of Pennsylvania has accomplished much in the past year and is on track to achieve great things in the next twelve months. It has been a community effort, made possible by the generosity of our donors, members, and partners. We are grateful for your continued support.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Kim Sajet".

Kim Sajet
President and CEO

Clockwise from top: Masthead from a 1953 publication of the Pennsylvania Civil Rights Congress; an illustrated page from an Ephrata Cloister music book circa 1817; the Bechtel family tree.



July 2011

HSP developed innovative digital history projects.

One, funded by the Albert M. Greenfield Foundation, will look at the early years of the Great Depression and the December 1930 failure of Bankers Trust Company. HSP staff will transcribe and annotate documents using Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) markup (the latest practice in digital humanities) to allow for more sophisticated searching and analysis. This project is part of a larger effort focusing attention on HSP's 20th-century collections. Another project, funded by the Bank of America, will examine documents that trace the story of American freedom. HSP staff will preserve these documents and also use TEI markup. Both projects, scheduled to launch in early 2013, will be accompanied by contextual essays and teacher resources.



Correspondence and photographs from the women's suffrage movement will be included in a digital history project being developed by HSP.

September 2011

More than 300 students researched at the HSP library, many for National History Day projects.

This past fall, HSP eliminated library admission fees for students in grades 6-12 and began a Wednesday-evening mentoring program. HSP, with the support of Beneficial Bank, sponsored several students to attend the state National History Day (NHD) competition. HSP held teacher workshops and institutes this fiscal year, including an NHD kick-off to introduce teachers to resources in Philadelphia. More than 500 teachers attended these events.

About 800 students in grades 6-12 participated in National History Day Philly, and hundreds came to HSP to research for their projects.



November 2011

The History Affiliates program supported regional history and heritage organizations.

History Affiliates, a program developed with funding from the Barra Foundation and coordinated by HSP, serves volunteer, small, and mid-sized organizations in Southeastern Pennsylvania. It offers members a monthly newsletter, access to a mentoring program, and professional development workshops. In November, HSP hired Prudence Haines as the full-time director of History Affiliates. Haines and her staff are working to develop a website with online resources and an annual awards luncheon that recognizes the accomplishments of the region's history and heritage organizations.

The Highlands Mansion and Gardens (shown at right) is one of more than 300 organizations in Southeastern Pennsylvania served by the History Affiliates program.



4,471 visitors to the research library

680,248 visits to hsp.org and our online catalogs

6,043 people attended events

3,388 follow HSP on Facebook and Twitter

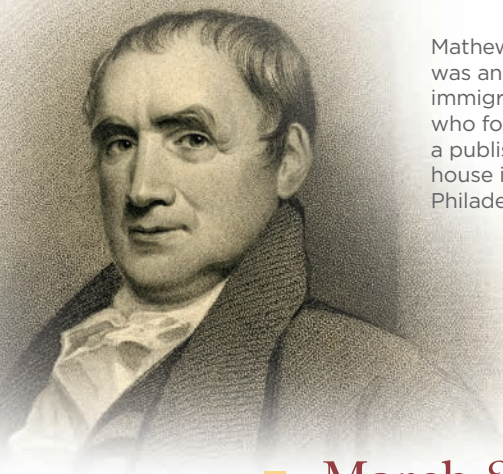


January 2012

The Historical Society launched a new website at hsp.org. The redesigned site features a high-powered search engine, a modern look, a members-only section, and information tailored specifically for scholars, teachers, family and community historians, and history and heritage organizations. In the members-only section, HSP members can view millions of genealogy records, renew their membership, access audio and video clips of past programs, and update their membership profile. This past fiscal year, more than half a million people visited hsp.org and used our online catalogs.

February 2012

HSP acquired 19th-century diaries penned by Mathew Carey. The Society purchased two diaries belonging to Philadelphia publisher Mathew Carey dating from 1828-1836 and more than 300 letters from Carey's son, Henry Charles Carey. The acquisition was one of the most significant additions to the Historical Society's archives in the past decade. In addition to the Carey family collections, the Society purchased or accepted donations of 80 collections this past fiscal year, totaling 110 linear feet of new material.



Mathew Carey was an Irish immigrant who founded a publishing house in Philadelphia.

March 2012

Ancestry.com partnered with HSP to post 7.5 million genealogy records online. The online records include more than 16 million names, including church, cemetery, and undertaker records from almost every county in the state, as well as indexes from the Oliver H. Bair Funeral Home and Pennsylvania Revolutionary War battalions and militia. These records are available on Ancestry.com, the world's largest family history resource, and are free for all HSP members and on-site library visitors. In March, HSP and Ancestry.com hosted a genealogy conference at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, which attracted nearly 1,000 attendees.

Visitors can now view millions of genealogy records online, thanks to HSP's partnership with Ancestry.com.



45 collections processed
(more than 1,217 linear feet)

3,023 items preserved in conservation lab

10,944 subscribers to
HSP's e-mail newsletter

118,708 read *PMHB* and *Pennsylvania
Legacies* articles online

April 2012

HSP received funding to conserve the records of the Bank of North America. HSP began a three-year project to preserve the records of our nation's first bank. This preservation project is supported by a large grant from Wells Fargo, which traces its lineage back to this important institution chartered by the Second Continental Congress in 1781. HSP's conservation team will re-bind books, mend tears, remove mold, clean documents, and re-house the collection in acid-free folders and boxes to ensure that these documents will be accessible for years to come.



The Historical Society cares for the records of the Bank of North America, shown here circa 1900.



From left: Bruce K. Fenton, chairman of the Board of Councilors; Maria Trafton, senior vice-president and regional managing director for the Pennsylvania and Delaware region, Wells Fargo; Dorothy Mather Ix, event chair; David McCullough, Founder's Award honoree; Kim Sajet, HSP president and CEO; and Collin F. McNeil, Heritage Award honoree.

May 2012

David McCullough and Collin F. McNeil were the honorees at the annual Founder's Award dinner. More than 340 guests attended the gala on May 17, held at the newly opened National Museum of American Jewish History on Independence Mall. HSP honored Mr. McCullough, historian and two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning author, with its prestigious Founder's Award. The Heritage Award was presented to Mr. McNeil for his decades of support and his leadership as former chairman of the HSP Board of Councilors. The event, chaired by Dorothy Mather Ix and with lead sponsor Wells Fargo, raised more than \$253,000 for the Society.

June 2012

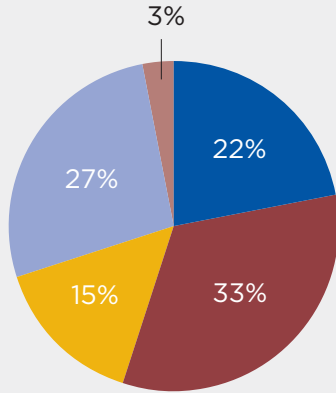
More than 57,000 images were posted in HSP's Digital Library and are available for sale as archival prints. This past fiscal year, HSP staff added tens of thousands of new images to our searchable online database, including many relating to immigration and ethnic history in the Philadelphia region. This latest expansion of the Digital Library was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Richard Lounsbery Foundation, Collin Farquhar McNeil, and John and Carol Asher. It is now possible to purchase high-quality matte or glossy archival prints, in addition to electronic images and licensing services.

A facsimile of this Works Projects Administration poster is one of tens of thousands of images available for purchase in HSP's Digital Library.



Annual Operating Revenue & Expenses

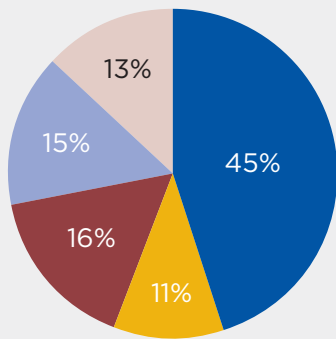
REVENUE



Income from Investments	22%
Contributions	33%
Grants for Special Projects	15%
Earned Income	27%
Membership	3%

TOTAL REVENUE\$4,865,520

EXPENSES



Library	45%
Education and Special Projects	11%
Occupancy	16%
Administrative	15%
Development	13%

TOTAL EXPENSES \$3,634,793

For a copy of HSP's audited financial statements, please contact mhairston@hsp.org.

With appreciation

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- Philadelphia Cultural Fund

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