

History in Pennsylvania Awards (HIP Awards)

History Affiliates at HSP



History Affiliates
of Southeastern PA

Nominations Deadline May 17, 2013

The History Affiliates' *History in Pennsylvania* awards program celebrates achievements at all-volunteer managed as well as small, and mid-sized history and heritage organizations in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties by encouraging and fostering community interest and awareness of history.

There are 10 potential awards. The *History in Pennsylvania* awards panel is seeking nominations from organizations whose project exhibits excellence and/or innovation in the field.

We are offering awards for outstanding:

- Educational and Public Programs
- Stewardship, Care or Interpretation of Historic Structures, Museum and Archival Collections
- Partnership Projects
- Volunteer of the Year

History in Pennsylvania awards highlight your history and heritage organization by:

- Bringing much needed attention from the community, media, and the history community to the work and accomplishments your history organization has made in your community and in the region.
- Encouraging your volunteers and/or staff with an incentive to maintain the highest possible standards.
- Demonstrating to potential funders that your program or activity has been recognized by your peers.

Awards Categories:

There are three size organizational categories, based on institutional capacity. The three groups are:

1. All-volunteer organizations with no paid staff members.
2. Small museums with operating budgets of \$100,000 or less.
3. Mid-sized museum with operating budgets of \$100,001 to \$1.5 million.

Educational and Public Programs

This award recognizes organizations which have developed exemplary new public programs that identify the needs of their community and meets those needs in an innovative or creative way.

- *Examples include an educational program for school children or a public program for families, adults or the community, that explore some aspect of history or the historic site(s) and helps connect the history to the audience for which it is intended.*

Stewardship, Care or Interpretation of Historic Structures, Museum and Archival Collections

This award honors organizations for creative projects that significantly improve the care of the historical resources in their custody; contribute to the long-term preservation of those collections; and/or make collections accessible to the public for the first time.

- *Examples include a project that improves the care of a collection such as a new housekeeping practice, a collections storage project or an interpretative or furnishing plan.*

A Partnership Project

This award recognizes those organizations that have sought partners in their community to work on collaborate projects that celebrate and promote awareness of local history to their mutual benefit.

- *Examples include a pair, or a group of institutions, with a history organization as the lead. A history institution may work with schools, libraries, sports teams, farms or businesses on a project that promotes interest in history within the community, such as a community-wide history day, a living history program in a school or library, or organizing, jointly marketing, and participating in a community-wide open house tour.*

Volunteer of the Year Award

In addition, the History Affiliates Program will offer a ***Volunteer of the Year Award*** to one volunteer who has made significant contributions of time, energy and/or creativity in encouraging interest in and support of local history.

Award Judging Criteria:

History organizations are encouraged to nominate either themselves or their peer organizations for consideration for a History in Pennsylvania Award.

Project nominations will be reviewed by a panel of 12 history professionals. Awardees will be judged on a project's overall excellence and innovation and how it supports the mission of the heritage organization. Although there are 10 possible awards projects will be selected based on excellence and innovation.

Awardees will be selected based on the following criteria:

- A project or practice will be judged on its **overall excellence** and how it supports the mission of the history or heritage organization.
- In addition, the following three criteria will be considered, as they apply to the specific nomination.
 - How the project or activity increases the public's awareness of history and/or the historic site(s). Examples include:
 - *A program or practice that has broad public exposure through marketing or web site efforts or appeal.*
 - *A program that increases the public's knowledge of the importance to today's world of local history or a particular historic site.*
 - *A practice, such as an admission structure or a brochure that encourages greater visitation or broader exposure to the public of the site and its history.*
 - How the project met a previously identified need. Examples include:
 - *Why the project was important in relation to the site and its mission, its collection(s) or the community.*
 - *Collections care projects that help to preserve original historical materials or marketing needs that position history or the site within the community in a meaningful way.*
 - How people and/or the community benefited by the work or activity. Examples include:
 - How the work or activity improves the quality of life and pride of place within the community.
 - For Volunteers of the Year Awards the narrative should include the name of the nominee, how long he or she has been involved with the organization, in what capacity, and why they are deserving of special recognition at this time.

Eligibility:

- A nominee for an institutional award must be an institutional member of History Affiliates. *(For information on becoming a free institutional member contact Prudence Haines, Director History Affiliates program at phaines@hsp.org)*
- A nominee for the Volunteer of the Year Award must be associated with an institutional member of the History Affiliates.
- Nominees must be history and heritage organizations located in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia, counties.
- Nominees must have board-adopted by-laws and a mission statement. Nominees do NOT have to be a registered non-profit or employ staff. They MUST, however, support the care of historical assets, engage in activities that support historical research and education, have a formal charter/mission statement, be able to provide valid contact information, and have access to e-mail/internet.

***Projects must have been completed between
February 28, 2011 and February 28, 2013***

Nominations are due by 5:00 pm, May 17, 2013.