November 2019 newsletter

Request for proposals for WMA 2020 Annual Meeting

We are proud to be partnering with the Western Museums Association (WMA) to cohost the WMA 2020 Annual Meeting in Portland, OR on October 8-11, 2020. With the theme of Forward, WMA 2020 will focus on the ways museums can be adaptable, Forward-thinking institutions.

We encourage OMA members and friends to consider submitting a proposal. The review process includes two rounds. For the first round, due November 22, you are welcome to submit ideas that still need refining and proposals without all the presenters lined up. Feel free to submit professional, creative, open-ended ideas for sessions or workshops, and the WMA program committee will work with submissions to perfect them for the second round of review.

For details on the process and hints for writing a good proposal, please see the request for proposals. Deadline is November 22, 2019.

OMA provides a list of scholarship opportunities for the conference.
OMA membership special

Join OMA or renew your membership now and your membership will be valid until the end of 2020 (that's 2 months free!).

Sign up today!

News

Creating inclusion and addressing segregation in national parks

"As the nation reflects on the solemn anniversary of 200 years of government-sanctioned slavery in America, it's also struggling with a history of racism and exclusion in its national parks and wilderness spaces. Increased attention to this history by scholars, activists, and the parks themselves seeks to ameliorate many of the practices that excluded people of color from our wilderness spaces.

"At Shenandoah National Park in Virginia, the effort to reconcile with its past began several years ago, with an interpretive exhibit focused on the history of segregation there, one of the country's first parks to confront this painful legacy."

Read the article from Outside.

Definitive guide to collection storage

Preventive Conservation: Collection Storage is a 944-page, full color, peer-reviewed volume that covers the breadth of collection storage preservation issues and challenges as they apply to all collection types including science, fine and decorative art, history, library, archives, and digital collections. It concentrates on preventive conservation and emphasizes a risk-management approach. The book will be useful to anyone in the field of collection care looking for an overview of collection storage—be it an established specialist, an emerging
professional, or a student.

Reflecting the breadth of its scope, the new book is a collaboration between the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections, the American Institute for Conservation, the Smithsonian Institution, and the George Washington University Museum Studies Program.

Read a summary and excerpts.

**Events**

**AASLH History Leadership Institute**

The History Leadership Institute is a professional development opportunity for mid- and advanced-career professionals at history organizations of all types and sizes. The seminar consists of two weeks online and two weeks in residence in June at the Indiana Historical Society in Indianapolis, IN. Over four weeks, attendees dive deep into a broad range of current and future national issues facing the history and museum field, including purpose, relevance, impact, decolonization, community engagement, equity and access, and facilitating change. Through workshops, discussions, activities, and field studies facilitated by experts working on the field’s leading edge, attendees tackle the most pressing challenges confronting history institutions and develop strategies for addressing them.

**Deadline for application is December 15, 2019.**

Find out more.

Scholarships are available:

- The AASLH provides [two scholarships](#).
- Oregon Heritage offers the [Elisabeth Walton Potter Preservation Scholarship](#), which provides financial assistance for Oregon residents to attend a heritage preservation-related conference, workshop, or training. **Deadline for application is November 22, 2019.**

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**Oregon Humanities' Conversation Project application**

Get your community talking! Oregon Humanities is accepting applications to host a Conversation Project that brings people together to talk about their beliefs and experiences around timely and important issues and ideas. You can apply to host a program on a topic from their catalog (race, place, civic life, environment, art and music, etc.) and receive resources such as
communications materials, program descriptions, evaluations and other to support each stage of the program. An Oregon Humanities facilitator leads a 90-minute conversation in your community that gets participants talking with each other as a way to build trust, and make stronger connections and commitments to the issues that affect their communities.

Deadline for applications to host programs is **Saturday, December 14, 2019**.

Find out more.

*Photo: Kim Nguyen, Oregon Humanities*

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**Jobs**

**Space Science Educator - OMSI**

The Space Science Educator is responsible for the console operation of public astronomy and laser shows in the Planetarium. This position primarily implements interpretive programming for the visiting public, including schools, families, children, and adults. **Deadline is November 15, 2019.**

Find out more.

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**Grants**

**IMLS grants**

Accelerating Promising Practices for Small Libraries is a special initiative to support projects that strengthen the ability of small and/or rural libraries and archives to serve their communities. **Deadline is December 2, 2019.**

The Museum Assessment Program helps small and mid-sized museums of all types strengthen operations, plan for the future, and meet standards. **Deadline is December 1, 2019.**

**Eastern Oregon regional grants**

The Eastern Oregon Visitors Association regional grants promote the eastern Oregon visitor experience and enhance and preserve the region’s quality of life and economy. **Deadline is December 9, 2019.**

**NEH grants**

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions help small and mid-sized institutions—such as libraries, museums, historical societies, archival repositories, cultural organizations, town and county records offices, and colleges and
universities—improve their ability to preserve and care for their significant humanities collections. **Deadline is January 15, 2020.**

The Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections program helps cultural institutions meet the complex challenge of preserving large and diverse holdings of humanities materials for future generations by supporting sustainable conservation measures. **Deadline is January 15, 2020.**

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**National Endowment for the Arts**

The National Endowment for the Arts assists museums through the support of exhibitions, care of collections, conservation, commissions, public art works, community engagement, education activities, and other museum work. **Deadline is February 14, 2020.**

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**National Historical Publications and Records Commission grant**

Access to Historical Records: Major Initiatives FY 2021. For projects that will significantly improve public discovery and use of major historical records collections. Preliminary proposals due **January 26, 2020.**