Dear Friends,

It is truly remarkable how far we have come in the past year. When I penned my message for last year’s annual report, we were still navigating the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic that upended our lives in a myriad of ways. As I wrote then, the Wisconsin Historical Society was not immune to the staggering challenges. However, we have navigated the worst of the pandemic.

I often say that everything we do of significance, we do in partnership with others. That has never been more apropos than in this past year. Our members and donors maintained their giving and even offered us additional financial gifts. Wisconsin residents and regional audiences enthusiastically returned to our historic sites and museums as well as engaged in statewide programs and services. Our stakeholders’ support helped the Wisconsin Historical Society endure and grow with purpose during one of the biggest challenges of its 176-year history.

We are grateful for our friends, who believe in the power of our mission to connect people to history by collecting, preserving, and sharing stories. I am delighted to report terrific news on numerous fronts from the 2022 fiscal year. These accomplishments put us on a pathway to transform how history will be shared and understood in Wisconsin for generations to come.

Among the many highlights:

• We welcomed guests back for a full season of in-person experiences at our library, archives, historic sites, and museums.
• Our maritime archaeologists along with the Ho-Chunk Nation made international headlines with the discovery and recovery of a 1,200-year-old dugout canoe in Madison’s Lake Mendota.
• Finally, we made enormous strides on the largest project in Society history: Building a new Wisconsin history center. Thanks to over $6 million in private gifts that pushed our fundraising total beyond $39 million and continued bipartisan support from the State Legislature and the Department of Administration, the $120 million project achieved important milestones that put it on firm footing moving forward.

Tucked in the middle of this report you will find an insert from our nonprofit partner, the Wisconsin Historical Foundation, with its fiscal-year highlights. The Foundation has provided services to the Society for decades and has been especially vital to the success of the history center project.

I hope you enjoy these reports and take pride in the fact that you made so much possible!

As always, thank you for your steadfast support for history. Indeed, as the theme of this report states, we are “Powered by Our Past.” Here’s to the promise of the exciting future we are building — together.

Cheers!

Christian W. Øverland
The Ruth and Hartley Barker Director & CEO

The Society’s ability to fulfill its mission of collecting, preserving, and sharing stories is made possible by the consistent and unwavering support of the Wisconsin Legislature, the Governor’s Office and administration, private donors, and members of the general public that provide financial support through the use of Society services.
History Center Project Reaches Major Milestones

It was a momentous fiscal year for the Wisconsin Historical Society’s plan to build a new Wisconsin history center. Significant milestones were achieved, giving the project strong forward momentum and putting it on a firm path toward its target completion date of 2026.

- Last October, a final site was secured thanks to the generosity, leadership, and vision of Fred and Mary Mohs and the Mohs family, ensuring that the history center will be located on Capitol Square.
- In December and April, exhibit and architectural design firms were hired.
- In June, the Legislature’s State Building Commission approved the release of $4 million of the $70 million in enumerated state funds, allowing the architectural and experience design phase of the project to officially begin.
- Throughout the fiscal year, more forward-thinking donors stepped up with over $6 million in gifts, pushing the Wisconsin Historical Foundation’s private fundraising total to $39.2 million.
- New commitments from Madison philanthropists Jerry Frautschi and Pleasant Rowland brought their combined gifts to $16.6 million.

"It has been an exciting year as we forge ahead in building a best-in-class state and national history center. We have assembled an industry-leading design team to build our nation’s next great cultural attraction.”

— Christian Øverland, The Ruth and Hartley Barker Director & CEO of the Wisconsin Historical Society

A HOME ON CAPITOL SQUARE

The first bit of exciting news arrived when Fred and Mary Mohs and their family offered to sell the Society, at below-market-value, two properties they owned next to the current Wisconsin Historical Museum. That guaranteed the history center a home on Capitol Square in downtown Madison at the top of State Street. The expanded site at one of Wisconsin’s most iconic intersections will allow for a 100,000-square-foot center that will more than double the exhibition space of the current museum, welcome more than 200,000 guests annually and double the number of PK-12 students served to 60,000.

The latest digital technology will connect the Society’s collections and interactive programming with residents across Wisconsin and the world. Toward that end, the Society was awarded a $334,186 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities as part of the American Rescue Plan to fund a major digitization project.

Donor Spotlight

- Nancy Marshall Bauer
- Beach Family Foundation
- Phil and Kit Blake
- The Boldt Company
- The Comer Family Foundation
- Diane Dei Rossi and James Hardy
- Dan and Natalie Erdman
- Pat and Anne Fee
- First Business Bank
- W. Jerome Frautschi and Pleasant Rowland Frautschi
- Conrad and Sandra Goodkind
- Mary Rosell Hilliker
- Gregory Huber
- Joshua and Megan Jeffers
- Claire and Marjorie Johnson
- Steven and Lynn Karges
- Robert D. Kern
- Kohler Trust for Preservation
- William and Jennifer Koezer
- Mark and Irene* Laufman
- Dale Leibowitz and Ron Sulitanzu
- The Levy Family
- Irving & Dorothy Levy Family Foundation Inc.
- Peter and Jill Lundberg
- Frederic and Mary* Mohs
- Tom* and Nancy Mohs
- National Guardian Life Insurance Company
- John R. and Catherine C. Orton
- Jerald and Mary Phillips
- Fred and Nancy Risser
- Brian and Karen Rude
- Amelia and Walter Rugland
- Dan and Cindy Schott
- Richard Seaver and Cathi E. Wiebrecht-Seaver
- Conrad and Sandra Goodkind
- Mary Rose Hilliker
- Gregory Huber
- Joshua and Megan Jeffers
- Claire and Marjorie Johnson
- Steven and Lynn Karges
- Robert D. Kern
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- Brian and Karen Rude
- Amelia and Walter Rugland
- Dan and Cindy Schott
- Richard Seaver and Cathi E. Wiebrecht-Seaver

The design will be informed by prior and upcoming statewide listening sessions, making it, as Øverland says, “a history center designed by the people, for the people.” Demolition of the current museum and the adjacent buildings is set for 2023, with construction expected to begin in 2024. The funding for the new building has already been successfully secured through $70 million in public State support and $30 million in private gifts.

MORE THAN A MUSEUM

Because of myriad opportunities made possible by the Society’s enormous collections and scope of public services, Øverland and other leaders intentionally have begun referring to the project as a history “center” instead of a “museum.” “We envision a dynamic cultural hub that transcends the traditional museum experience,” said Øverland.

The center will be a place of inspiration and interaction where guests of all ages will see themselves reflected in the stories being told.

“Studying history is critical to an informed society.”

— John and Sherry Stineman, Palermo, Wash.

“Guests experience inside the center will be more than just a museum for history. We aim to make it a place for wisdom and curiosity that involves and inspires people to engage with their community and the past.”

—in memoriam

Donor

- Phil and Kit Blake
- The Boldt Company
- The Comer Family Foundation
- Diane Dei Rossi and James Hardy
- Dan and Natalie Erdman
- Pat and Anne Fee
- First Business Bank
- W. Jerome Frautschi and Pleasant Rowland Frautschi
- Conrad and Sandra Goodkind
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- Fred and Nancy Risser
- Brian and Karen Rude
- Amelia and Walter Rugland
- Dan and Cindy Schott
- Richard Seaver and Cathi E. Wiebrecht-Seaver

The Wisconsin Historical Foundation continues to engage with private donors to raise needed funds to support the visitor experience, programming, and operating expenses, ensuring that what guests experience inside the center will be memorable as the building itself.

“We are humbled by the generosity of our early donors that made it possible to meet our initial $30 million private funding requirement to support the design and construction of the new facility,” said Julie Luzier, executive director of the Wisconsin Historical Foundation. “We are now focused on the next phase of fundraising to deliver an incredible visitor experience and provide programming resources long into the future.”

To learn more, visit wisconsinhistory.org/historycenter.
Brewhouse opening a milestone moment

Guests visiting Old World Wisconsin discovered that progress doesn’t just look and feel good, it also tastes great. That’s because after a year of anticipation, construction was completed and the new Brewhouse opened to the public at the Wisconsin Historical Society’s 600-acre public history attraction in Waukesha County.

Indeed, things are moving forward in a big way at the site beloved by generations of Wisconsinites since it opened in 1976. “This is a perfect example of our mission and vision coming together,” said Angela Titus, Assistant Deputy Director and Chief Program Officer of the Society. “One of our goals is to use a 21st-century approach to interpretation and this Brewhouse experience that combines hands-on demonstration with multimedia is an example of that. We are sharing past cultural traditions with today’s audiences in ways that are engaging and accessible.”

Grand opening events in June attracted hundreds of guests who ventured inside the 1,760-square-foot building to enjoy The Brewing Experience presented by the Cleary-Kumm Family. Visitors can observe and interact with volunteer brewers as they make a batch of historic beer; view a video showing highlights of the brewing process; enjoy samples of beer brewed on-site; and interact with a touch-screen display that shows the history of many current and past breweries located in communities across the state.

In addition to daily programming, the Brewhouse hosts monthly beer dinners and other programming. It will also host private events that generate important revenue to sustain ongoing operations at the site.

The opening of the Brewhouse is part of the first phase of a multi-year phased master plan that will dramatically transform the entire welcome area at Old World Wisconsin. It includes a new entry and ticketing complex, tram station and more. This first phase was made possible by over $2.5 million in private gifts to the New Arrivals Campaign being conducted by the Wisconsin Historical Foundation (WHF), the Society’s nonprofit fundraising arm.

“Our commitment is to transform Old World Wisconsin for future generations by offering some of the modern amenities guests expect even while coming to enjoy a historic experience. This could not happen without generous and forward-thinking donors. We are excited to continue to spread the word and engage with new donors to realize the rest of this master plan.”

Indeed, it is the culmination of years of planning — but it’s just the beginning.

The Brewhouse will serve as the hub for a larger brewing experience planned for the site that will eventually include historic (1906) Wittnebel’s Tavern, an outdoor beer garden and an actual garden where historic and contemporary ingredients used in brewing will be grown.

Exterior work on Wittnebel’s began this summer. If enough private funds are donated to complete the restoration of the tavern’s interior to its 1930s post-Prohibition state, it could open before the end of the 2023 season.

“This is an incredibly exciting time for Old World Wisconsin,” said Site Director Dan Freas. “There has been a lot of buzz across the state about what’s happening here. It has been a thrill to see so many smiles and happy families enjoying the Brewhouse for the first time. Many have already planned return trips. It’s truly the dawn of a new era for us.”
The 15-foot canoe, uncovered by Society maritime archaeologist Tamara Thomsen in 27 feet of water, is the oldest fully intact vessel ever to be extracted from Wisconsin waters. It is also the first canoe that has been found with artifacts on board — in this case, net sinkers used for fishing.

“It’s pretty amazing,” said Thomsen, who happens to live on Lake Mendota. “I’m underwater a lot, but this was the first dugout canoe I’ve ever seen underwater. It was incredible to be working here, literally in our backyard.”

Thomsen found the canoe while exploring the lake on a dive with a friend. Once she confirmed it to be a fully intact canoe, the Society verified the age by carbon dating and consulted the state’s tribal nations. Then Thomsen and her colleagues received permission for a precarious recovery mission.

“By taking action to preserve this canoe we are protecting a piece of history for future generations,” said Christian O’Vertland, the Ruth and Hartley Barker Director & CEO of the Society. “The canoe is a remarkable artifact that connects us to the people living in this region 1,200 years ago. We are excited about the possibilities the canoe offers to work with the Ho-Chunk and other tribal nations to share Native American stories and culture through the present day.”

An Unforgettable Day

On Nov. 2, 2021, about six weeks after Thomsen found the canoe, she and fellow Society archaeologists Caitlin Zant and Amy Rosebrough, assisted by the Dane County Sheriff’s Department dive team and other volunteer divers, spent several hours retrieving the canoe from the bottom of Lake Mendota.

At nearby Spring Harbor Beach, word quickly spread throughout the neighborhood. Despite frigid temperatures hovering in the 30s, dozens of curious residents gathered to observe the operation. Seeing the canoe exposed to air for the first time in over a thousand years when it was carried ashore was a moment nobody present will forget.

No ordinary canoe, mind you. A 1,200-year-old dugout canoe, carved from a single piece of white oak wood, most likely by ancestors of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The finding and recovery of the canoe from Madison’s Lake Mendota last fall made headlines across the world and put the work of the Society, especially its archaeologists in the State Historic Preservation Office, in the spotlight.

The thing that has been sticking with me is the experience of pulling it out,” said State Archaeologist James Skibo, who led the team that planned and executed the recovery effort. “People were sitting there for hours and when we came out of the water, some cried and some cheered. It was an emotional experience. It made me think of things a little differently. You don’t realize the thrill and importance of the moment and what it can mean to people.”

Among those on shore was Bill Quackenbush, tribal historic preservation officer for Wisconsin’s Ho-Chunk Nation. In a moving moment, Quackenbush took a knee next to the canoe, gently touched it with his right hand, and solemnly reflected on his ancestors.

“It’s going to protect and preserve the history and culture of us and of mankind in this area, we’re totally in support of that,” he said. “And looking at the crowd here, there’s a lot of interest.”

It wasn’t just those on hand. When news of the recovery was first reported by local and state media, hundreds of outlets from across the world covered it, including CNN, magazines such as the Smithsonian and Newsweek, and outlets in the United Kingdom, France, Australia, India, Canada, Ireland, Singapore, Taiwan and Argentina.

“We were doing interviews and fielding phone calls constantly,” said Skibo. “I’ve never been a part of anything like this. The fact that it has attracted this kind of interest across the world shows you how meaningful it is to people.”

Ho-Chunk Students Connect with Canoe

After recovery, the canoe was transported to the State Archive Preservation Facility (SAPF) in Madison, where it was immediately submerged in a vat filled with water to protect it and begin a three-year preservation process.

The SAPF is not open to the public, but occasional private tours are held. Among them was a meaningful late June visit by Quackenbush and Ho-Chunk students he was leading on a paddling expedition in their own dugout canoe. Earlier in the day, they visited the location on Lake Mendota where the canoe was raised.

“It was an emotional event for them,” Skibo said. “It’s one thing to hear about your ancestors, but another to be at the place where they lived . . . The canoe just keeps on giving.”

It was an emotional event for them,” Skibo said. “It’s one thing to hear about your ancestors, but another to be at the place where they lived . . . The canoe just keeps on giving.”

— James Skibo, State Archaeologist

1,200-year-old canoe recovery attracts worldwide interest

For archaeologists at the Wisconsin Historical Society, it was the kind of year that only comes around once in a career — if you’re lucky. And it’s all because of a canoe.
New to the Society’s Collections

Over the past year, the Society acquired hundreds of artifacts and archival collections representing a diverse array of historical and contemporary stories. These pages highlight a few of them.

**Women’s bowling league pantsuit and papers**
Bowling pantsuit set designed and made by Donetta Ulrich for her team, the Bel-Airs, of the Stratford Women’s Bowling Association from 1976-1981. Ulrich (1930-2022) donated the suit as well as papers from the league. The league thrived in the Marathon County village of Stratford from 1947 until 2005, largely through the efforts of Ulrich, its longtime president.

**Potz’s ‘Happy Days’ sweater**
University of Wisconsin letterman’s sweater worn by actor Anson Williams, who portrayed Potzie Weber in the television series “Happy Days.” Set in Milwaukee in the 1950s, the sitcom aired 255 half-hour episodes from 1974-1984. WHS Artifact Acquisition Fund purchase.

**Luther Allison shirt and guitar**
Performance shirt worn by prominent guitarist, Wisconsin resident, and Blues Hall of Fame member Luther Allison, 1990-1997. Allison (1939-1997) died in Madison, five days before his 58th birthday. Also, a Gibson Les Paul model electric guitar (not pictured) owned and played by Allison shortly before his death, as well as an extensive archival collection. All were gifts from Carolyn Brown.

**John Chancellor papers**
John Chancellor was a journalist, foreign correspondent and commentator, spending most of his career with NBC news and serving as anchor of “NBC Nightly News” (1970-1982). Included are materials documenting his coverage of the Apollo Soyuz mission, U.S. elections and political national conventions, and interviews with former presidents Jimmy Carter, Richard Nixon and Gerald R. Ford.

**Ada Deer papers**
Ada Deer is a member of the Menominee tribe and was the first woman elected to chair the tribe in Wisconsin. Deer was appointed by President Bill Clinton to lead the United States’ Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) from 1993-1997. She was successful in advocating for the restoration of the Menominee as a federally recognized tribe (1973). Deer’s collection contains material related to her work with the BIA, including speeches, congressional testimony, and correspondence.

**Milwaukee ‘freedom schools’ desks**

**Ultralight aircraft**
Ultralight aircraft used to lead migratory flights during the international effort to reintroduce the endangered whooping crane to eastern North America from 2007-2015. Gift from Bob and Nancy Rudd.

**Hmong immigrants’ silver bars**
Silver bars, representing accrued family wealth, brought from Laos by the Xai Her Yang family. Gift from Bob and Nancy Rudd.

**Specimen from first atomic bomb explosion**
Trinitite specimen (liquefied sand from the first atomic bomb explosion) acquired by former University of Wisconsin lab manager Gus Schultz, who was foreman of the Laboratory Shops at Los Alamos during the Manhattan Project (1945). Also acquired: a journal kept by Schultz’s wife, Bertha, describing the scientific achievements and her thoughts after the use of atomic bombs on Japan. WHS Artifact Acquisition Fund purchase.
Thousands of guests returned to the 600-acre living history attraction in the Waukesha County village of Eagle. New Brewhouse: One of the year’s major highlights was the June opening of the new Brewhouse, which is part of the first phase of a multi-year phased master plan to transform the welcome area. Daily historic brewing demonstrations proved popular and monthly beer dinners, featuring brewers from across the area, quickly sold out. Read more about the Brewhouse on pages 6-7.

Legends & Lore: The beloved four-day event that highlights eerie tales (pictured) returned in October 2021, quickly selling out and delighting guests with a much-desired in-person experience. It is hosted in collaboration with Kettle Moraine School for Arts and Performance, with generous funding once again provided by WaterStone Bank.

Pleasant Ridge: A $10,000 grant from Wisconsin Humanities is helping Society staff develop a new guest experience and interpretive themes for the outdoor exhibit that focuses on a historical Black community in southwestern Wisconsin from 1850 through the early 20th century. The Society is working with consultants, experts and community partners to create a sustainable model for inclusive living history practices rooted in community dialog.

Together again! Making memories & building for the future

There’s nothing quite like visiting one of the Wisconsin Historical Society’s 12 historic sites and museums. By immersing yourself in historic surroundings, your senses come alive as you learn from the past and make meaningful, lasting memories. Making those experiences available to the public is essential to the Society’s mission and critical to supporting the local tourism economy in each region, so we were thrilled to resume in-person operations and welcome back thousands of guests during the past fiscal year. Enjoy a peek at some highlights.

CIRCUS WORLD

The beloved attraction in Baraboo, original home of the historic “Ringlingville” winter headquarters for the Ringling Bros. Circus, enjoyed what longtime ringmaster Dave SaLoutos might call a “stupendous” year. Circus World welcomed large crowds and secured a major federal grant to fund significant future improvements.

Daily performances returned, which had added meaning for SaLoutos, a Baraboo native who had entertained audiences for 39 years. It was his 33rd and final season as ringmaster. “It’s been a wonderful career,” said SaLoutos (pictured at left). “A lot of my heart went into this place. I know it will go on, and that’s gratifying.” SaLoutos plans to continue supporting Circus World in other, non-performing roles. “He’s been our very public face, our ‘unofficial’ mayor of Baraboo,” Site Director Scott O’Donnell said. “He has wonderfully captured the hearts of children of all ages, through a combination of grace, heart and talent.”

Planning for the future: Staff completed a concept planning project with PAV Destinations for future guest experiences. The concepts focus on a restored and immersive Ringlingville experience, year-round performance facility and reimagined Circus Wagon exhibition. Also, thanks to private funding from the Les & Judy Smout Foundation, Renee and Tom Boldt, Fred D. Pfening III, and Circus World Museum, Inc., staff also collaborated with Isthmus Architecture to complete a Historic Structures Report (HSR) on the National Landmark buildings that comprise Ringlingville. That work culminated in the Society receiving a $499,999 Save America’s Treasures federal grant from the National Park Service to restore the business office that is the most historically significant building in Ringlingville but has never been open to the public.

BLACK POINT ESTATE & GARDENS

The historic site on the shore of Geneva Lake enjoyed a booming recovery from the paused visitor experience by attracting over 10,000 guests, a season record. In addition, nearly every public program sold out.

The site, which includes the 20-room Victorian mansion built in 1886 as the summer home of Chicago beer baron Conrad Seipp, hosts tours of the mansion and estate gardens, book readings, and other events.

Private donors continue to provide gifts to improve the site. Among them, the Royal Joy Williams Questers Club helped fund the construction of a pedestal for the 1864 Seipp Brewery stone lintel. Also, volunteer Jan Paikl returned to continue the funding for the Black Point internship program, now in its seventh year. The 2022 intern was Maria Dickfoss (pictured above), a student at Badger High School in Lake Geneva. Former interns have gone on to positions at the Madison Children’s Museum, Old World Wisconsin and the Lake Washington School District.

MADELINE ISLAND MUSEUM

Fifty student artists from 10 tribal nations enjoyed a rare and exciting opportunity to have 64 of their beadwork creations included as part of the exhibition, “Oshki-Anishinaabeg: Telling Our Stories with Manidoominemag.” It opened with a celebration hosted by Bad River Tribal Chairman Michael Wiggins, Jr.

The project complemented the main museum exhibition “Meeting Nanabozho: Works by Rabbett Before Horses Strickland,” featuring the internationally recognized Ojibwe artist. Together, they shared a story of Ojibwe culture and persistence.

Madeline Island, located just off the Lake Superior shore from Bayfield, is the original home of many of the Midwest’s Ojibwe bands. The Mashkiziibi (Bad River Band) still maintain 200 acres along the Amnicon Bay shoreline of Madeline Island. The exhibition honored and celebrated the historic and continuous ties to their homeland, called Moopinawaanaaaring, the place of the yellow-breasted flicker birds.
Donor Spotlight

The Society thanks the following individuals and organizations who have given at least $5,000 to support our historic sites and museums during the 2022 fiscal year:

- Circus World Museum, Inc.
- Ray and Kay Eckstein Charitable Trust
- Marty and Amy Fields
- Friends of H.H. Bennett Studio
- Dana Goodall DeAngelis, in memory of John C. Goodall, Jr.
- John C. Goodall III, in memory of John C. Goodall, Jr.
- Gorenstein Charitable Foundation, Inc.
- Greater Milwaukee Foundation’s Black Point Historic Preserve Operation and Maintenance Fund
- Greater Milwaukee Foundation’s Black Point Horticulture Fund
- Greater Milwaukee Foundation’s Walter A. Wilde Fund
- Hoyuen Family Foundation, Inc.
- Kohler Foundation, Inc.
- Kohler Trust for Preservation
- Jun and Sandy Lee
- Lori & Judy Smout Foundation
- Thorson Foundation, in memory of John C. Goodall, Jr.
- WaterStone Bank
- Wisconsin Humanities
- Kenneth Young, in memory of Jack Ryan

PENDARVIS

A major accomplishment was the completion of the Historic Structures Report for the historic site located in Mineral Point. The report, funded by the Memorial Pendarvis Endowment Trust and Jefferson Family Foundation, outlines the restoration work, engineering and budget needed to restore the site to the period of 1935-1970, when Bob Neal and Edgar Hellum preserved and operated the Cornish and mining historic site. Pendarvis also participated in the Mineral Point Museum Night as a key feature in the historic community’s heritage tourism network.

VILLA LOUIS

It was an eventful year for the historic site on the banks of the Mississippi River in Prairie du Chien, as it marked 150 years since construction began on the Dousman family mansion and 70 years as a state historic site. Villa Louis hosted more than a thousand people for the Society’s first major event in the recovery from the two-year pandemic pause with the 40th anniversary of the highly popular Carriage Classic. Meanwhile, the first phase of a restoration project restored and repaired the limestone walkway around the home, providing for much improved visitor accessibility. Phase 2 began in fall 2022.

STONEFIELD

Smiles returned to the grounds of the historic site in Cassville, which is part of the original 2,000-acre estate of Wisconsin’s first governor, Nelson Dewey. Most notably, it hosted a Safe and Spooky Halloween supported by the Friends of Stonefield and Nelson Dewey State Park. This popular community event (pictured) set an attendance record by welcoming over 3,000 visitors to the recreated rural village.

FIRST CAPITOL

Guest experiences resumed at the historic site in Belmont, which features the two buildings where legislators of what was then the Wisconsin Territory met to pass the state’s first 40 laws. During the 2022 fiscal year, work began on a project to develop new outdoor interpretive signs to highlight the history of the Capitol and founding of the state of Wisconsin. Additionally, the state historical markers on the grounds were sent to Sewah Studios in Ohio for restoration.

WADE HOUSE

Work began on a master planning project with PGAV Destinations to identify new opportunities to strengthen visitor experiences at the historic site, carriage museum and grounds, located in Greenbush. Thanks to funding from the Kohler Trust for Preservation, a major project to upgrade the horse arena and event infrastructure was launched. The first event to occur after resuming the visitor experience was the blacksmith workshops (pictured), which remain extremely popular and routinely sell out. Summer camps for children (pictured) also resumed.

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM

School tours welcomed nearly 10,000 students back to the museum, resuming the tradition as a field trip highlight to the Capitol Square in Madison. Staff also launched virtual programs that reached over 1,100 students whose school groups were still unable to visit in person. Another major tradition resumed with the return of the Ever Gleaming aluminum Christmas tree exhibition, which included additional interpretive context on the atomic age when the trees were introduced.

H.H. BENNETT STUDIO

The historic site in downtown Wisconsin Dells, which includes the original 1875 studio of the legendary photographer, welcomed the return of visitors with the launch of a new studio experience that provides an authentic and personalized tintype photography session (pictured). Part of the revised experience includes a new mechanical backdrop system, funded by the Gregory C. Van Wie Charitable Foundation, which allows participants to pick a replica backdrop (pictured at right).

REED SCHOOL

In-person visitor experiences, including programming for students, resumed at the historic site in Neillsville. Inside, guests immersed themselves in the surroundings that were familiar to generations of rural children in Wisconsin, where 6,000 one-room schools once dotted the landscape.

“Each of our locations are critical pieces to the tourism economy and community pride within their home regions. We were thrilled to be able to resume visitor experiences at every location.”

— Nick Hellen, Administrator of Museums and Historic Sites
It was a fantastically rewarding year for Team Wisconsin in the virtual National History Day competition, as 52 students advanced to the national competition, with two eighth graders being crowned national champions: Emma Manion and Krin Blegen, best friends from Kettle Moraine Middle School.

Emma (pictured above), who placed fourth at nationals in 2021, took first this year in the junior individual performance category by portraying Lutie Stearns (1866-1943), a Milwaukee teacher and librarian who helped promote the establishment of libraries across the state and nation.

"To me, participation in NHD means more than just completing a history project," said Emma, who lives in Waukesha. "It is a creative outlet, a journey of discovery, and a pathway for learning and growing as a student and a person. I will forever be grateful for the opportunity to participate in NHD."

Krin (pictured at right), who received the African American History Award last year and had her documentary featured in a Smithsonian showcase, this year won the junior individual documentary category for her film, "What They Taught Us: How Grassroots Debate and Diplomacy Shaped the Milwaukee Open Housing Movement."

"The experiences I have had and the tools I have gained through NHD will help me the rest of my life," said Krin, who lives in Oconomowoc.

A total of 811 students competed at regional competitions across Wisconsin, with 400 qualifying for the state event. University School of Milwaukee eighth-graders Delia Narrai and Liesel Kocourek placed third nationally in the junior website category. The last time Wisconsin had a national winner was 2016.

To learn more about NHD in Wisconsin, visit wihist.org/NHDWI. For more on the NHD competition, visit nhd.org/winners.
Making Connections Across Wisconsin & Beyond

Virtual Offerings Draw Large Audiences

LOCAL HISTORY CONFERENCE: The 15th Annual Local History and Historic Preservation Conference, conducted virtually for the second straight year in late October 2021, attracted a record-setting 445 participants from 55 Wisconsin counties, 21 states and the District of Columbia. The theme of the conference was “Connecting Communities to Preserve & Share History.” It included featured speaker Angela Fitzgerald (pictured at right), host of PBS’ “Wisconsin Life.” This conference, the largest history event in Wisconsin, brings together hundreds of historical society and museum volunteers, historic preservationists, and others interested in history.

WEBINARS: Programs on sharing women’s history and the Hmong refugee experience connected with thousands of people around the country. Nearly 10,000 viewers across multiple platforms from 18 international communities and seven countries tuned in to our four-part Ojibwe Winter Storytelling Series. It featured Ojibwe elders and artists Michael Laughing Fox Charette, Edith Leoso, Biskakone Greg Johnson and Leon C. Valliere (pictured at right).

Nearly 15K Enjoy Traveling Exhibits

The Society shared traveling banner exhibits with nearly 15,000 Wisconsinites and launched “We Will Always Be Here: Wisconsin’s LGBTQ+ Historymakers,” based on the award-winning Society Press book for teens and young adults. Original artwork for the exhibit was created by Madison artist nipinet Wisconsin’s LGBTQ+ Historymakers,” based on the award-winning Society Press book for teens and young adults. Original artwork for the exhibit was created by Madison artist nipinet Wisconsin’s LGBTQ+ Historymakers,” based on the award-winning Society Press book for teens and young adults. Original artwork for the exhibit was created by Madison artist nipinet Wisconsin’s LGBTQ+ Historymakers,” based on the award-winning Society Press book for teens and young adults. Original artwork for the exhibit was created by Madison artist nipinet Wisconsin’s LGBTQ+ Historymakers,” based on the award-winning Society Press book for teens and young adults. Original artwork for the exhibit was created by Madison artist nipinet Wisconsin’s LGBTQ+ Historymakers,” based on the award-winning Society Press book for teens and young adults. Original artwork for the exhibit was created by Madison artist nipinet Wisconsin’s LGBTQ+ Historymakers,” based on the award-winning Society Press book for teens and young adults. Original artwork for the exhibit was created by Madison artist nipinet Wisconsin’s LGBTQ+ Historymakers,” based on the award-winning Society Press book for teens and young adults. Original artwork for the exhibit was created by Madison artist nipinet Wisconsin’s LGBTQ+ Historymakers,” based on the award-winning

Three-year Grant Helps Diversify, Improve Historic Markers

The Society is in the middle of a three-year, $75,190 grant from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation to re-envision the State Historical Markers Program, with an emphasis on community collaboration and underrepresented histories. Outreach staff are collaborating with March On, Milwaukee to develop a series of 10 historical markers about Milwaukee’s civil rights movement. In addition, the Lake Ivanhoe Property Owners Association collaborated with the Society to create a new marker detailing the history of its Black-founded resort community. Over the next year, staff will consult with tribal nations to remove outdated and offensive markers and replace them with community-curated content.

Society Press Enjoys Award-Winning Year

The Wisconsin Historical Society Press achieved a 10 percent increase in total books sold (45,373) from the previous year, an 8 percent jump in book sales ($660,490) and a slew of honors. The four best-selling books were the the fourth-grade state history textbook, “Wisconsin: Our State, Our Story,” followed by “Wisconsin State Parks,” children’s book “Sport: Ship Dog of the Great Lakes,” and “Indian Nations of Wisconsin.”

The Press hosted 162 events, including a return to in-person gatherings. Among the event highlights was an appearance by authors Jenny Kahvatis and Kristen Whitson in early June at PrideFest Milwaukee, which drew more than 2,000 attendees to their booth. Their book, “We Will Always Be Here: A Guide to Exploring and Understanding the History of LGBTQ+ Activism in Wisconsin,” was recognized nationally, earning honorable mention in the prestigious American Association of State and Local History Leadership in History Awards.

Donor Spotlight

The Society is grateful to the William G. Pomeroy Foundation for its partnership and support of the Wisconsin State Historical Markers Program with a three-year, $75,190 grant to elevate the histories and contributions of historically marginalized communities in Wisconsin. We also thank the following organizations who have made gifts of at least $5,000 to support the Society Press during the 2022 fiscal year:

• The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation
• The Ejusve Foundation, Inc., the charitable arm of The Capital Times
• Sawyer Family Fund within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region
**2022 Fiscal Year By The Numbers**

**Library, Archives & Museum Collections**

- **152,755** Patrons served by the Society’s Library & Archives
- **677** Objects acquired for collections
- **311** Donor transactions with collections
- **4,500** Students participated in Virtual National History Day Program (NHD)
- **4,500** Books sold by the Society’s fourth-grade history textbook

**Historic Sites & Museums**

- **156,770** Total attendees at historic sites & museums
- **2,712** Projected jobs created by construction projects related to tax credit programs
- **453** Buildings rehabilitated using tax credit programs
- **451** Society consultations with local history affiliates
- **445** Attendees at virtual local history & historic preservation conference

**Historic Preservation**

- **162,757,073** Dollars invested in rehabilitated historic properties
- **264** Buildings listed to the National Register of Historic Places
- **31,960** Attendees at society presentations
- **18** Countries represented among viewers of virtual Ojibwe winter storytelling series
- **11,098** Dollars awarded in small grants to society affiliates
- **167** Wisconsin communities represented among viewers of virtual Ojibwe winter storytelling series
- **21** States represented at local history & historic preservation conference
- **9,711** K-12 student’s visiting the Wisconsin History Museum in school groups
- **15,000** People reached by traveling exhibits
- **21,000** Students used the Society’s 4th-grade Wisconsin History textbook
- **52** Students qualified for the NHD Nationals
- **9** Students finished in the top 10 or won special honors at NHD Nationals
- **2** Students who were NHD National Champions

**Education**

- **43,740** Students served by Library, Archives & Museum Collections
- **45,373** Books sold by the Society’s fourth-grade history textbook
Grateful For Grants

The Wisconsin Historical Society has a robust private and federal grant program that continues to grow. Together, the Society and our nonprofit partner, the Wisconsin Historical Foundation, secured more than $1.8 million in grants to fund work in the 2022 fiscal year and beyond. We are grateful to have received these funds to help us continue to provide unparalleled public access to history throughout the pandemic.

Federal Grants

National Endowment for the Humanities:
$334,186 American Rescue Plan Grant helped us to hire staff and provide training and resources for continued digitization of photographs, documents, and other assets in preparation for a new Wisconsin history center. … Also, $218,171 National Digital Newspaper Program grant, the fourth received by the Society, allowed us to expand the date range of digitized newspapers through 1960. The National Endowment for the Humanities: Democracy demands wisdom.

Non-Federal Grants

University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute:
$51,914 to support underwater archaeology field surveys and maritime research in northern Door County.

The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation:
$15,000 to support the Wisconsin Magazine of History, the charitable association with and near historic lumber piers in Wisconsin Coastal Management Program:
$16,851 to study submerged cultural resources associated with and near historic lumber piers in Door County.

Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation:
$15,000 to support an educational partnership with Milwaukee County Historical Society to deliver Hands-On History programming to Milwaukee County classrooms and to develop the digital version of “Milwaukee through History: A Young Readers’ Guide to the People and Events that Shaped a City,” a textbook by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press which will be the first available resource for teaching Milwaukee history to middle and high school students.

Wisconsin Humanities:
$10,000 to support a plan to develop a new guest experience for Pleasant Ridge, an outdoor exhibit at Old World Wisconsin focused on a historical Black community in southwestern Wisconsin from 1850 through the early 20th century. … Also, $9,864 Recovery Grant to support IT needs to facilitate remote/hybrid work and virtual programming, funded in part by a grant from Wisconsin Humanities, with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Wisconsin Humanities strengthens our democracy through educational and cultural programs that build connections and understanding among people of all backgrounds and beliefs throughout the state. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this project do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

U.S. Small Business Administration:
$553,372 Shuttered Venue Operator Grant, established by Congress to offset pandemic losses, supported operating costs at Circus World.

National Park Service:
$499,999 Save America’s Treasures will restore the Ringling Business Office at Circus World, a National Historic Landmark, to the 1915 era. Save America’s Treasures grants are provided by the Historic Preservation Fund and administered by the National Park Service, Department of Interior.

Special Thanks To Our Leadership Teams

We gratefully recognize the members of the Wisconsin Historical Society Board of Curators and the Wisconsin Historical Foundation Board of Directors who served from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. Your extraordinary dedication and thoughtful leadership during a unprecedented and challenging year enabled us to connect with millions who look to the Society as a trusted source of authentic history. Thank you for your service!
Wisconsin Historical Foundation

POWERED BY OUR PAST

ANNUAL REPORT | 2022 FISCAL YEAR | JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022
A message from the Wisconsin Historical Foundation Director

Dear Friends,

As the Wisconsin Historical Foundation nears its 70th year (in 2024) as the nonprofit partner of the Wisconsin Historical Society, it fills me with pride when I think about all that you made possible during the 2022 fiscal year.

Altogether, you contributed a whopping $11 million in private gifts to the Foundation, allowing the Society to enter its 2023 fiscal year on July 1 buoyed by the return of in-person programming and positioned for exciting future growth.

Consider these delightful highlights:

• More than 400 new donors made gifts.
• Over 3,000 new history lovers joined the Society by purchasing a membership.
• 1,500 people gave a gift of membership.
• Ten more individuals included the Society in their estate plan, ensuring that future generations will continue to have unparalleled access to history.
• Gifts of $6.4 million to the Foundation’s Campaign for a New Wisconsin History Center pushed the overall private fundraising total to $39.2 million and positioned the project for exciting progress in 2023.
• More than $140,000 in donations to the Foundation’s New Arrivals Campaign for Old World Wisconsin, added to $2.6 million previously received, made it possible to complete construction and open a popular new Brewhouse.
• The Society, through the Foundation, secured more than $1.8 million in federal and private grants.

When you give to the Society, you’re giving to people. You make history come alive in immeasurable ways for young children, PK-12 students, college students and adults. If you’re among the 171,143 people who follow us on social media, you see examples of it every day. It is truly inspiring.

Each of you has made a difference and should be proud. On behalf of our Foundation team, thank you for your support!

Cheers!

Julie Lussier
Executive Director
Wisconsin Historical Foundation

WHAT YOU MADE POSSIBLE
The nonprofit Wisconsin Historical Foundation has existed since 1954. It supports the Wisconsin Historical Society by administering its membership program, planned giving program, and providing services for fundraising, marketing, and communications.

FY22 Financial Snapshot
JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022

REVENUE
TOTAL: $11,155,102
13% Library & Museum Collections
9% Historic Sites & Museums
2% Programs & Outreach
1% Historic Preservation

Wisconsin Historical Foundation
2022 Fiscal Year by the Numbers

11,253
SOCIETY MEMBERS
3,241
NEW SOCIETY MEMBERS
1,500
PEOPLE WHO GAVE A GIFT OF SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP
425
NEW GENERAL FUND DONORS
10
NEW ROBERT B.L. MURPHY LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBERS (INCLUDED SOCIETY IN ESTATE PLAN)

171,143
FOLLOWERS ON SOCIETY SOCIAL MEDIA (44,400 IQS) (19% INCREASE)

40,062
DOLLARS RAISED MAY 30 ON GIVING TUESDAY (INCLUDING $20,000 MATCHING GIFT)

21,728
DOLLARS RAISED MAY 28 ON SOCIETY’S 3RD ANNUAL GIVING DAY (INCLUDING $7,500 MATCHING GIFT)

11,155,102
TOTAL DOLLARS RAISED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY *Percentages do not equal 100 due to rounding
Thanks for your Support!

The following pages recognize individuals and organizations who cumulatively contributed $250 or more to the Wisconsin Historical Foundation from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, including pledges and gifts of membership. It’s because of your generosity that the Society has been able to accomplish so much this year.

**WISCONSIN HISTORICAL FOUNDATION**

**President’s Council of the Heritage Circle**

$1,000,000 and more
- Pleasant Rowland Frautschi
- W. Jerome Frautschi
- Mary Roelli Hilfiker
- Robert* and Dorothy* Luening
- Frederic and Mary* Mohs

$100,000 - $999,999
- Anonymous
- Robert D. Kern
- William and Jennifer Kraemer
- Dale Leibowitz and Ron Suliteanu
- The George and Jane Shinners Charitable Fund, in memory of Barbara Shinners Grainger
- Rhona E. Vogel

$50,000 - $99,999
- Pharis Horton, in memory of Carolyn D. Horton
- Mark and Irene* Laufman
- Richard Searer and Cathi E. Wiebrecht-Searer
- JoAnn and Michael Youngman

$25,000 - $49,999
- Anonymous
- Phil and Kiki Blake
- Rick Bock Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation
- Estate of Robert W. Chase
- Robert C. Dohmen
- Dan and Natalie Erdman
- Conrad and Sandra Goodkind
- Elsie Ham, in memory of Jerry Ham
- Tom* and Nancy Mohs
- John R. and Catherine C. Orton
- Don and Cindy Schott

$10,000 - $24,999
- Anonymous (2)
- Rima and Michael Apple
- Thomas and Martha Beach
- Diane Dei Rossi and James Hardy
- Pat and Anne Fee
- Gregory Huber
- Claire and Marjorie Johnson
- The Lenz Family
- Jolayne Lindberg
- Walter S. and Amelia M. Rugland Fund within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region
- Irvin Saltzer, in memory of Mary Sather
- Monica Sentoff, in memory of Stephen Sentoff
- Dawn Stucki
- George H. and Nancy R. Vogt Foundation
- Kenneth Young, in memory of Jack Ryan

$5,000 - $9,999
- Angela and Jeff Bartell
- Nancy Marshall Bauer
- Christopher and Mary Pat Berry
- Kendall and Diane Breunig
- Kathleen Burke
- Robert Cornell
- Bob and Susan Crane
- Kathryn Maegil Davis
- Marty and Amy Fields
- John C. Goodall III, in memory of John C. Goodall, Jr.
- Dana Goodall DeAngelis, in memory of John C. Goodall, Jr.
- Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Inc.
- A. William and Joanne B. Huelsman Fund
- Walter A. Wilde Fund
- Dick Grum*
- Robert and Elke Hage
- William E. Hansen
- Anna Biermeier and Roger Hanson
- Joshua and Megan Jeffers
- Dr. and Mrs. John P. Kaminski
- Steven and Lynn Karges
- Kenneth and Alice Kays
- Dr. Ellen D. Langill* and Mr. Ross M. Langill
- Jun and Sandy Lee
- Peter and Jill Lundenberg
- William Lynch and Barbara Manger
- Audrey and Rowland McClellan
- Lowell and Mary Peterson
- Jared and Mary Phillips
- Fred and Nancy Risser
- Brian and Karen Rude
- Miriam Simmons
- James S. Slatter

*In Memoriam • Names listed in bold denote members of the WHS Board of Curators, WHF Board of Directors, or Wisconsin Historical Real Estate Foundation Board

Special thanks to the President’s Council

President’s Council members contribute at least $5,000 annually to the Wisconsin Historical Society through the Wisconsin Historical Foundation. These leadership gifts have a significant and positive impact on the Society’s ability to provide consistently excellent programs and services throughout Wisconsin and worldwide via wisconsinhistory.org. Each year, we recognize the very generous support of the President’s Council with a dinner. Thank you for your continued leadership and trust in our organization.
When I donated a copper Swiss cheese kettle to the Society in 2003 (from our family’s Tuscobia Cheese Factory), there was talk of a new museum. Now that it’s happening, for me, this is a dream realized after decades in the making. I am thrilled to be part of the historical legacy of the great state that has meant so much to my family.*

— Mary Roselli Hiddler
President’s Council member, whose significant financial gift for the new history center followed her previous gifts to Society collections in the 1990s

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We want to make sure that fact-based history remains accessible to the public. Anything we can do to help preserve that is worth doing. What better way to do it than by supporting an organization like the Wisconsin Historical Society? We feel it’s important. If we don’t do it, who will?**

— Darlene & Dave Lee
Wisconsin residents and members of the Heritage Circle and Robert B.L. Murphy Legacy Circle

HISTORY AMBASSADOR
WISCONSINHISTORY.ORG

*In Memoriam • Names listed in bold denote members of the WHS Board of Curators, WHF Board of Directors, or Wisconsin Historical Real Estate Foundation Board

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In Memoriam • Names listed in bold denote members of the WHS Board of Curators, WHF Board of Directors, or Wisconsin Historical Real Estate Foundation Board

Richard Collins and Everett and Joanne Chambers
Carol Lohry Cartwright
John and Bea Carrig
Carol Carlin
Christopher and Sally Candee

Thomas E. Caestecker*
Alice and James Butler
Dean L. and Rosemarie Buntrock
Brian Buggy
Gwen Buckun
Neal Brunner
Sandra Brown

Janice Fleenor
Meghan and Thomas Findley
Kathleen Falk
Karen and James Evenson
Dale and Debra Evans
Perry Goetsch and Eric Eddy and Jodie Kulp-Eddy
Megan and Brendon Duffy

Dr. Debra Berndt
Barbara Elwood-Goetsch

Thomas and Nancy Holley
Beth Holden and Jerre Ziebelman
Caralynn Hodgson
Dale and Linda Herrick
David Hernandez
Duane Hendrickson

Dennis and Karen
Goodenough Fund
Stacie and Perry Goyer

Thomas and Gloria Creer
Gregory and Carol Griffin

John and Dorian Jordan
Gary and Sally Jouris
Mary Kazmazrek
Jeffrey and Elizabeth Kanne

Ralph and Erica Kauten
Bernard and Sandra Kresting
Brenda Kay
Hank Kulesza
William L. Kundert
Hilda Weeks Kuter
Clinton and Louise Kuzmich

Mary Ann and Charles LaBahn
Peter Layde and Angela Carillo
Richard and Joan Leffler
David and Cheryl Lemke
Margaret Lescrenier

La Crosse Community Foundation’s Warren and Denise Loveland
Family Fund

Celene Frey and Roy Ostensos Lyn and John* Otterstein

Brad and Julie Lussier
Dave and Sue Lyon
Edward and Ann Mabry
Patricia Mackler-McCarthy
William Madlener
Hugh and Marilyn Madison
Dr. and Mrs. John J. Magnuson
Donald and Gail Marti
Shirley Mattix

Thomas and Cheryl Maxwell
Blair and Joy McMillan
Patricia McQuiddy
Bruce Meier and Wendy Fearsaid
Eugene Meier
David and Genie Meissner

Bob Merkell and Patty Spires-Merkel
Daniel and Jeanne Meyer
Joint Revocable Trust
Patrick and Susan Meyer
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Sandra and Douglas Milroy
Shelley Moffatt

James and Patricia Moore
Mary Mowbray and Roland Schroder
Kathleen Murphy
Gerald and Dee Lila Murray
Cindy Nelson
Willard and June Netlles
Douglas Oldmixon
Margaret Ann Olson

Celene Frey and Roy Ostensos Lyn and John* Otterstein

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Mary E. Pautz
Douglas Perks
Robert and Kathleen Poi
Jim and Margaret Polglaze
John Powell
William Provis
George Purcell

Don and Carol Reeder
Kevin and Correna Ricks
Layton and Diane Rikkers
Karri and Catherine Robe
Robert and Gladys Roszkowski
Norlan and Anne Rowbotham
Jack and Carole Sandner
Wilbert and Genevieve Schauer
Carol and Dean Schroeder

Greg Schuh
Kristie Schultz
Jeri Sebo

John and Mary* Sensenbrenner
Janet Seymour
Tom and Sharon Sharratt
Michael Shephard
Dennis Slater
Elliott Stauson

William Snyder
Sandy Spengler
Lon and Rebecca Spooner
Elizabeth J. Steinbrenner
Phyllis Young

Trudy Zauner

Robert Susedik
Andy and Melanie Swanson
Sean and Melanie Tafaro
Judith Taylor
Kathleen Tessmer
Konrad and Mary Jo Testwuide
Josephine Thieill
Linda Thompson
Way and Jacqueline Thompson
John and Carol Toussaint
Joseph and Rhonda Trader
Elizabeth Uihlein
Aural Umhofer
Dorothy Verhein

Gerald D. Viste
Robert and Deborah Wade
Willard and Karen Weber
George Weidner and Marilyn Yeates

Corrine and Nancy Westmas
Faye Whittaker
Richard and Janet Whitto

Sandy Wiegand
Sam Wiesenberg
Kim and Del Wilson
Thomas and Shasta Winston - The Longview Foundation
Phyllis Young

Trudy Zauner

Steven and Joan Ziegler
Dr. Aharon and Emily Zorea
Anne Zweifel

Thanks to the Society, there are 12 different family friendly historical sites in the state. Old World Wisconsin is one of our favorites! We’re proud to recommend these attractions to everyone and to share in their financial support."

— Bob and Holly Orona

Racec residents and members of the Society’s Heritage and Robert B.L. Murphy Legacy Circle

I’m very proud to be from Wisconsin and passionate about its history. It’s so important that our heritage not be lost. If Wisconsin history is important to you, then you must fund it. It’s more of a challenge now to pay for these things, and once we have lost our history, it’s gone."

— Andy Burkart

Paducah, Kentucky resident (Sheboygan native) and member of the Robert B.L. Murphy Legacy Circle

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I will be forever grateful for the opportunity to participate in National History Day and for all that I have learned on this journey. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the donors who have made this experience possible."

— Emma Manion

"Without National History Day, I wouldn’t be the same person I am today. (Donors who give to support the program) are the reason I loved school through the dark times of COVID-19. I am eternally grateful for all that donors do for students and teachers."

— Kris Blagon
Harold and Grace Kurtz
James Kurtz
Linda Kutchan
Duane and Barbara Lahti
Martha Lamar
Donald T. Lang
John and Margery Langeland
Marvin Lansing and Nancy Kraft
Paul and Margaret Larson
Eric and Laurel Lein
Michael and Margaret Lenth
Stuart D. Levin
Mark and Celine Lillie
Edward and Lynn Limbach
John Lindquist
Dan Loescher
Nina Look and Fred Derr
Mark Lopnow
Guy and Mary Lord
George and Emily Lorenz
Mark Lucaccioni
James Luckow
Wayne and Linda Luft
Barbara Lund
Ron and Kay Maassen
Tai and Catherine Mack
William Malone
Kathleen Martin
Larry Martin and Martha Cranley
Kert and Ruth Marty
M. Bruce Edmonson and
Kathleen Massoth
Barbara Fox Matther
Francis and Rose Mary
Matusinec
Mary McAndrews
John and Marian McClellan
Linda McClelland
Mary Anne McCoy
John McNamara
Carrie Meyer and Ernie Carlson
Dale Meyer
Luane and David Meyer
David Mezger
Frederick and
Karen Mikolajewski
Matthew Mikolajewski
Andrew and Cherri Miller
Chad and Angela Miller
Dan Miller
Robert and Vivian Miller
Sharla Miller
David V. Mollenhoff
Clyde Moon
Greg and Christina Moratz
Robert Rogers and Kelly Moravec
Bill and Pat Moren
Sacia Morris
Peter Newman and Pat Castelli
Ronald and Judith Nichols
Daniel Nickolie
Emily Nissley
Scott Noegel and
Laurie Ramacci Noegel
Gregory Norton and
Mary Williams-Norton
Gary Nosacek and
Cynthia Jones-Nosacek
Thomas Brennan and Lynn Nyhart
Marlyn Oberst
Tim Olsen
Galen and Thelma Olson
Joanne Olson
Tammy and Joel Oppriecht
Greg and Nancy Parkinson
Ronald and Patricia Paska
Sandra Paske
Zorba and Penny Paster
C. Duane and Joy Patterson
Nancy J. Patterson
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John and Cathy Pederson
Ernest Peterson
David Peterson and
Vickie Kaufman
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Judy Poplawski
Guy Porth
Jay Poster
Ellen and Stanley Presley
Fred and Diann Pribbenow
James and Frances Proulx
Al and Paula Puitiskis
Marian Quinn
Deborah Radzik
Julie Ragland
Joseph Ranney
Lee Rasmussen
Lloyd and Krista Reck
Kenneth and Susan Reese
Theodore and Janet Reinke
Jean S. Rennebohm
Daniel Reynolds and
Laura Wagner
Jane Reynolds
James and Barbara Rice
Chris and Elaine Rich
Mary Rieder
Dale Rindfleisch
John Rinka
Louise Robbins
Alan Robertson
Janet Robertson
Ruth Roquitte
Jackie Rose
Henry Rueden
Joyce Russell
Dennis and Sharon Ryan
Gary Rulin
Louann Sanchez
Robert Schaefer
Phillip and Jayne Schauer
Donald Schenker
Mark and Ruth Schenning
Janet Schipper
Karl and Judith Schmid
Warren and Margaret Schmidt
The Honorable and
Mrs. Martin J. Schreiber
Diane Schuck
Theodore Schultz
Sen. Dale and Rachel Schultz
Dennis and Judith Schultz
Girard and Nancy Schultz
Norman and Barbara Schultz
Peter and Diane Schumacher
Robert Schuricht
Ann Scott
Thomas and Meredith Scrivner
Ann and Ron Semmann
Paul and Grace Sexton
Michael and Janice Shuca
Mary and John Silbersack
Ellen Simons
Marcia Sivenert
Gordon and Mary Skare
Alan Slomowitz
Amnon and Jen Smith
John and Judith Smith
Nancy Smith
Cecil and Nancy Snyder
Jason and Pam Sorci
Ron and Jennifer Spelman
Steven Kulick and
Margaret Soperi
Sonja Stauffacher
Daniel and Tricia Stearns
Allan and Mary Stegeman
Darlene Sterzinger
Edward and Carol Stevenson
Ron and Tracy Strickland
Judith Sullivan
Gerald and Vicki Swedish
Linda and George Tanner
Linda Tate
Veronica Telfer
Dean and Michele Teofil
Jim Thommens
Michael and Cheryl Tully
Phillip and Mary Tyrum
Virginia Uhlenhing
James and Emily Uhlenhake
Nancy Unger
Earl and Mary Updike
Michael Vahidecki
and Julie Horner
Maureen C. Van Dinter
Thomas and June Varney
Neil and Eileen Vassau
Andrea and Lisa Vedder
Bonnie Vick and
Nancy Katzman
Jim and Sharon Vierbicher
Aila Vilumsons
James Walker
John and Donna Wayne
Robin Rae Weaver
Charles Wegner
Julia Wegner
Frances L. Weinistein
Mark and Anne Weitenbeck
Ollia Wells
Ronald and Judy Wenger
Karl and Ellen Westlund
Robert Whetstone and
Carol O’Leary
Cate Zeuske
Terry Kaldahusal
for a long time. “
the story of Emma and Krin, how they made history,
winners in one year was beyond belief. I’ll be telling
they ever thought possible. Having two national
allowed them to dig deeper and climb higher than
You created an environment for my students that
strengthening a learning community. “
builds teacher collaboration, which is essential in
histories. I have taught for 36 years and this book
engaging way to connect students to their family
and offers expertise on how to use gardening as an
I am thrilled to have ‘Seeds in Soil.’ It is exemplary
Names listed in bold denote members of the WHS Board of Curators, WHF Board of Directors, or Wisconsin Historical Real Estate Foundation Board

You created an environment for my students that allowed them to dig deeper and climb higher than they ever thought possible. Having two national winners in one year was beyond belief. I’ll be telling the story of Emma and Krin, how they made history, for a long time.”

— Terry Kaldahusal
Keelie-Moraine Middle School teacher of National History
Day national champions Emma Mansio and Kein Blegen

I am thrilled to have “Seeds in Soil.” It is exemplary and offers expertise on how to use gardening as an engaging way to connect students to their family histories. I have taught for 36 years and this book builds teacher collaboration, which is essential in strengthening a learning community.”

— Metl Lau
An instructor at Madison’s Midvale Elementary School, on the Society Press book by author Susan Apps-Bodily

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“ ”

“ ”
We are still proud Badgers. Studying history is critical to an informed society. This history center will provide Wisconsinites, no matter where they live, with a world-class facility to honor the state’s historic past. We hope our gift provides momentum and inspires others to invest in such a worthy project.

— John & Sherry Sudin

Wisconsin natives now living in Redmond, Washington; and donors to the Wisconsin history center project
LONGTIME CONTRIBUTORS

Those who have generously contributed for 25 consecutive years or more:

Nancy Abraham
George A. Affeldt, Jr.
Nancy Abraham
Carolyn Allison
Joey Amberg
American Girl
Joyce E. and Thomas L. Bruckner
Elizabeth Brown
William and Sue Bridson
Michael K. Bridgeman
James and Elizabeth Brezinski
Linda Fahrenkrug
Rose Fahien
Judy and Dave Eulberg

Gregory C. Van Wie
Charitable Foundation
Rhonda and Stewart Vogt
Gregory C. Van Wie
Charitable Foundation
Steve and Betty Wallman
We Energies
Wisconsin Dells Visitor & Convention Bureau
Wisconsin Preservation Fund, Inc.
JoAnn and Michael Youngman

James Bonnett
Lawrence and JoAnn Borek
Kathy and Marla Kowalski
Barbara Borns
Dr. Mark S. Bostwick
Jerry and Donna Bowser
Ren. Douglas Brandt
Kathleen Braun
Caryl Bremer
Ron and Doris Breweer
Jeffrey Cheek and Elizabeth Brezinski
Michael K. Bridgeman
Jeffrey Cheek and Elizabeth Brezinski
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