



February 16, 2023

Dear History Advocate:

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones happy and healthy as we welcome the New Year. The past year proved to be one of renewal and growth in which we all worked together as a community to move the Wisconsin Historical Society forward. It is the strength, tenacity and commitment of the Society, as well as the support of our members and affiliates, that keep us steadfast and growing with purpose. I cannot thank you enough for your past and continued support.

I am writing to invite you to the Wisconsin Historical Society's Sixth Annual Legislative Day in the Capitol. This event will be held in-person at the Wisconsin State Capitol on Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. The event has historically been an unqualified success thanks to our members and affiliates, surpassing over 70 advocates last year. Your participation this year is critical for continued success.

It is vital that we take the time to thank our lawmakers as we reinforce awareness that our organization is a respected and trusted resource throughout the entire state and is valued in local communities. To do so, we need our history advocates to join us in Madison and thank lawmakers for their continued support and emphasize the critical role that the Wisconsin Historical Society plays in collecting, preserving, and sharing stories.

The Administration and the State Legislature have been supportive of the Society and our mission in past budgets and are now looking to continue that momentum in the 2023-2025 budget year. The Society has been very successful coming out of the pandemic and has adopted a budget that accurately reflects the needs of our growing statewide programming endeavors and new History Center project. We need your help to garner legislative support for key budget item requests to enable us to continue our state-mandated objectives of providing top-notch services and experiences to citizens in all 72 Wisconsin counties. We simply cannot succeed without your voice.

Realizing your time is valuable, we have organized a full-day event that will be productive, enjoyable, and efficient. As the enclosed agenda outlines, we will begin the day with a welcome and advocacy workshop from our Director of Government Relations, Kate Easton. Kate will walk you through the talking points and review the handouts and schedules in advance of your meetings with your legislative offices.

**Christian W. Overland**  
**The Ruth and Hartley Barker Director & CEO**

**Collecting, Preserving, and Sharing Stories since 1846**  
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**wisconsinhistory.org**

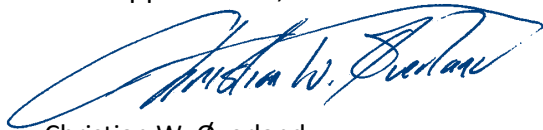
Additionally, we are excited to present a lunch-and-learn presentation on the Lake Mendota Canoes by Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Bill Quackenbush of the Ho-Chunk Nation and State Archeologist, Jim Skibo, from 12:00 to 1:00 pm. Lunch will be provided while you learn first-hand about the traditions and stories behind these two amazing artifacts! The day will conclude with a reception at the current historical museum on the square.

Please register online for this event by Wednesday, February, 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023 at:  
<https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/advocates>

Articulate advocates like you are wonderful at creating enthusiasm and expressing the need to preserve and share our cultural heritage from generation to generation. Your advanced registration is critical to ensure availability of legislative offices and important to make this day successful. Thank you very much for considering this invitation and demonstrating to state leaders how much we all care about state and local history. I am looking forward to seeing you in-person on March 22<sup>nd</sup>!

Thank you for your leadership!

With appreciation,



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