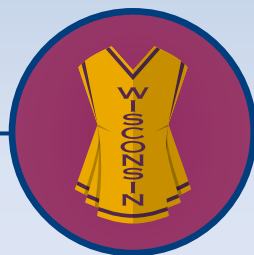


# CONNECTING COMMUNITIES TO **PRESERVE** & **SHARE** HISTORY

**15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LOCAL HISTORY &  
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OCT. 20-22 • VIRTUAL EVENT



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [WISCONSIN HISTORY.ORG/CONFERENCE](https://wisconsinhistory.org/conference)  
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From **Wednesday, October 20, through Friday, October 22, 2021**, join the Wisconsin Historical Society online to experience the high-quality sessions, keynotes, and workshops that have become synonymous with our in-person conference. Hosting the conference online offers connections to colleagues and experts from all regions of Wisconsin and across the country while also ensuring the health and safety of attendees.

The Society looks forward to returning to an in-person conference experience in 2022. Please save the date to join us in exploring central Wisconsin in Rothschild, October 13-15, 2022.



The 2021 Local History and Historic Preservation Conference is presented in partnership with the Wisconsin Association of Historic Preservation Commissions, the Wisconsin Council for Local History, and the Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board.



## FEATURED SPEAKERS



Photo credit: Aubrey Jane

### Emily Graslie

From 2013 to 2020, Emily Graslie worked as the first-ever Chief Curiosity Correspondent for the Field Museum in Chicago, creating more than 200 episodes for [The Brain Scoop](#), a natural history-themed YouTube channel whose videos have been viewed tens of millions of times. Her media productions and storytelling adventures have taken her and her viewers through both space and time, from deep into the bat caves of Kenya to the remote Peruvian Amazon jungle — and from the Cambrian through the Cretaceous by means of geologic and fossil formations across the United States. In 2020, she made her broadcast television debut on PBS in “Prehistoric Road Trip,” an original three-part series exploring the paleontology and natural history of the Dakotas, Montana, and Wyoming.

Graslie has received numerous accolades for her work, including the American Alliance of Museum’s Nancy Hanks Award for Professional Excellence. She holds an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Allegheny College, and in 2018, researchers at the Universities of Florida and Paraná named a new species of butterfly in recognition of her outreach efforts, *Wahydra graslieae*.



### Angela Fitzgerald

Angela Fitzgerald is the host of “Wisconsin Life” on PBS Wisconsin and the creator, producer, and host of “[Why Race Matters](#).” She has dedicated her extensive education and career to leadership, community engagement, and creating opportunities for others.

Fitzgerald received an undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Maryland Baltimore County and a master’s degree in social psychology from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. Fitzgerald moved to Madison, Wisconsin, in 2014 to continue her career in research and evaluation. She later returned to graduate school, pursuing her doctorate at University of Wisconsin–Madison, focusing on the intersection between research, community engagement, and organizing.

As the host of “[Wisconsin Life](#),” she shares the stories of everyday people doing extraordinary things in Wisconsin. In the summer of 2020, with an urgent and amplified national conversation about race following the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police, Fitzgerald felt moved to use her role in public media to help localize the discussion about improving the conditions of Black Americans. “Why Race Matters” elevates issues of importance affecting Wisconsin’s Black communities through conversations with everyday people whose work and commitments center on race, identity, and achieving racial equity in the state.



# CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

## Registration Information

The \$50 conference registration fee includes access to all plenary events, sessions, and networking events. Members of the Wisconsin Historical Society are eligible for a 10% discount. If you are not yet a member, you may join at [wisconsinhistory.org/membership](https://wisconsinhistory.org/membership). Attendees will receive access to recordings of the sessions and plenary events for a limited time after the conference, providing an opportunity to watch recordings for those offerings that could not be attended live or that you wish to revisit later.

## Register Online

Register online now at [wisconsinhistory.org/conference](https://wisconsinhistory.org/conference). Registration will remain open until October 18, 2021. All registered attendees will receive an immediate email confirmation. A separate email with a receipt will be sent shortly after registration. The full program with links to each online session will be emailed to all attendees on October 19, 2021, along with contact information for online support throughout the conference. For any questions, please contact [lhhpconference@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:lhhpconference@wisconsinhistory.org).











# CONFERENCE SESSION SCHEDULE




## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Plenary Session: Welcome from Christian Øverland and “The Hope is the Thing” with B.J. Hollars		
11:00 - 11:45 a.m.	Networking		
Noon - 12:45 p.m.	Keynote: “Wisconsin Life - Sharing Stories from Our State” with Angela Fitzgerald		
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Local Cemetery Conservation Workshop	Collections Conversations: Your Questions Answered!	Everywhere with a Good Feeling: How to Incorporate Native History in Local Museums
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.	What’s New with the Wisconsin CLG Program	Papers, Pictures, and Patrons: The Basics of Managing an Archives	Building a Digital Readiness Community of Practice

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

9:00 - 9:45 a.m.	Keynote: “The Power of Curiosity” with Emily Graslie			
10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Historic Preservation Solutions 	Wisconsin’s Emerging National Heritage Areas	Effective Outreach: Taking Your Stories on the Road without Leaving Your Collections Behind	Museum Store Secrets
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Grant-Ready: Best Practices and Tips for Grant Development	Innovative Design Solutions for Preservation Tax Credit Projects 	Who Actually Owns My Stuff? Donations, Copyright, and Use	The ABCs and 123s of Creating Innovative Local History Exhibits
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	Where Does Heritage Tourism Fit in the Larger Travel Puzzle?	Pendarvis Historic Structure Report 	Unmaking the Museum: Towards a Transformative Approach to Collaborative Curating	Researching Wisconsin African American Civil War Soldiers
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	The Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary	Accessibility and Additions in Historic Rehabilitation Projects 	From the Ground Up: Building and Refining Evaluation Processes	Listening to War: Contextualizing Hard History

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Mercer CCC Camp Reborn	Historic Preservation and Downtown Preservation Efforts 	Doing LGBTQ+ History in Small City Wisconsin 	Writing Local History for Publication
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Tax Credits for Historic Building Rehabilitation 	Tribal Historic Preservation	Forest History Association of Wisconsin Digital Archives and Outreach	Historical Markers Ahead: New Directions for Storytelling and Funding
Noon - 12:30 p.m.	BOC Awards Recognition and Closing Remarks from Christian Øverland			



# WEDNESDAY OCT. 20

# AGENDA



## Opening Plenary Session 9:00-10:00 a.m.



### Welcome

Christian W. Øverland,  
Ruth and Hartley Barker Director & CEO,  
Wisconsin Historical Society



### Hope is the Thing: Wisconsinites on Pervasive in a Pandemic

B.J. Hollars  
with Jim Alf, Dr. Margaret Rozga, and Curt Meine

In March 2020, as a pandemic began to ravage our world, writer and professor B. J. Hollars started a collaborative writing project to bridge the emotional challenges created by our physical distancing. Drawing upon Emily Dickinson's famous poem "'Hope' is the thing with feathers," Hollars called on Wisconsinites to reflect on their own glimpses of hope in the era of COVID-19. The result is an exploration of the depth and range of hope experienced in times of crisis, as well as an important record of what Wisconsinites were facing and feeling through these historic times.

Join B.J. Hollars for an engaging overview of the book's essays and poems that demonstrates hope comes in many forms: a dad dance, a birth plan, an unblemished banana, a visit from a neighborhood dog, the revival of an old tradition, empathy. Contributors Jim Alf, Dr. Margaret Rozga, and Curt Meine will join the discussion to share their contributions to "Hope is the Thing" and their experiences of joining this statewide collaborative effort.

**B. J. Hollars** is an associate professor of English at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire and the founder and executive director of the Chippewa Valley Writers Guild. He has written ten books and edited three anthologies. Jim Alf is a retired lumber sawyer, over-the-road truck driver, and author of "When the Ferries Still Ran," a book of local history. He resides in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. University of Wisconsin–Waukesha Professor of English Emerita Dr. Margaret Rozga creates poetry from her ongoing concern for social justice issues. She was a participant in Milwaukee's marches for fair housing and later married civil rights leader Father James Groppi. Curt Meine is a conservation biologist, environmental historian, and writer based in Sauk County. He serves as senior fellow with the Aldo Leopold Foundation and the Center for Humans and Nature; as research associate with the International Crane Foundation; and as adjunct associate professor at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.



**Pictured above:**  
"Hope is the Thing:  
Wisconsinites on  
Pervasive in  
a Pandemic."



## Keynote

Noon-12:45 p.m.



### Keynote:

**Wisconsin Life - Sharing Stories from Our State**  
Angela Fitzgerald

Angela Fitzgerald, host of “[Wisconsin Life](#),” delves into her journey to share stories highlighting the diverse array of experiences and people found throughout our state.

Angela Fitzgerald is the host of “Wisconsin Life” on PBS Wisconsin. In addition to her work hosting the television series, Angela is the creator, producer, and host of “[Why Race Matters](#),” a digital series on PBS Wisconsin. She has dedicated her extensive education and career to leadership, community engagement, and creating opportunities for others. Angela is currently the Director of Family, Youth & Community Engagement for the Madison Metropolitan School District. She is also pursuing her Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, where she is studying the intersection between education, organizing, and research as it relates to improving outcomes for historically marginalized groups. When she’s not working, Angela loves to spend time with her family, including Max and Coco, their toy poodle and shih tzu.

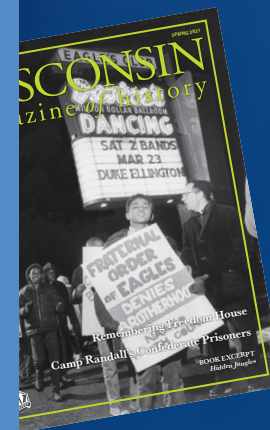
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## NEW THIS YEAR!

Workshop Wednesday features opportunities to develop or refresh skills and discover resources through 90-minute, focused presentations with expanded opportunities for Q&A.



### Workshops

1:00-2:30 p.m.

#### Local Cemetery Conservation Workshop

Jonathan Appell, Monument Conservator, Atlas Preservation

Join monument conservator Jonathan Appell as he covers the basics of cemetery preservation in this hybrid workshop featuring a video of an on-location workshop followed by a live Q&A session with the instructor. Through a partnership with the Osceola Historical Society and the Mount Hope Cemetery Association, Jonathan demonstrates and performs treatments for the most common gravestone and monument preservation dilemmas, including cleaning, resetting tilted stones, and rejoining fractured tablet stones. The goal of this session will be to give local cemetery staff or volunteers the knowledge to perform basic preservation procedures.

#### Collections Conversations: Your Questions Answered!

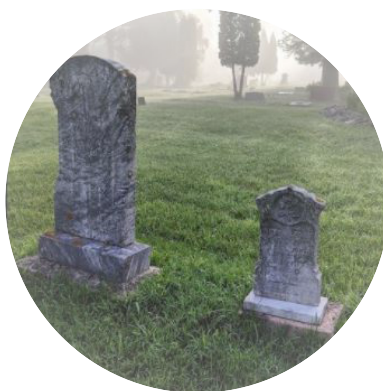
Danielle M. Benden, Owner, Driftless Pathways, LLC

Do you have a collections conundrum at your museum or historical society that has you stumped? Not sure where to begin as you think about how to manage, inventory, and care for your archives and artifacts? Bring your most pressing quandaries and concerns to this live question-and-answer forum. A collections preservation resource guide will be provided for all attendees.

#### Everywhere with a Good Feeling: How to Incorporate Native History in Local Museums

Liz Arbuckle (Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa),  
Northern Outreach Coordinator, Wisconsin Historical Society

"How can we (or even, should we) offer Native American interpretations when there aren't tribes nearby?" This question is commonly asked by historical societies and museums. As Apache leader Geronimo once said, "I was warmed by the sun, rocked by the winds, and sheltered by the trees, as other Indian babes. I can go everywhere with a good feeling." This workshop will explore ways in which Wisconsin museums and heritage centers can accurately and respectfully offer interpretations of tribal history by recognizing that Native people have been "everywhere" in Wisconsin, and all of us can talk about and present that in good ways.



**Pictured left:** Mount Hope Cemetery, Osceola, Wisconsin, location of the on-site filming for the cemetery conservation workshop.



## Workshops

3:00-4:30 p.m.

### **Attaining and Maintaining CLG Status: What's New with the Wisconsin CLG Program**

Jason Tish, Certified Local Government Coordinator, Wisconsin Historical Society

This workshop is designed for historic preservation commissions, local government officials, and municipal planners. Attendees will learn about Wisconsin's Certified Local Government program. Presenters will discuss what local governments need to be certified, how to avoid being decertified, and how to get grant funding for historic preservation planning projects in your city.

### **Papers, Pictures, and Patrons: The Basics of Managing an Archives**

Greg Kocken, University Archivist, McIntyre Library, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Pete Shrake, Archivist, Circus World Museum

This workshop will explore the role and value of archives for institutions of all sizes. The presenters will share valuable tips and tools for managing archival programs that connect your archival resources with the communities you serve. Revised and updated for online delivery, this workshop will use engaging activities and thought-provoking case studies to explore a variety of topics associated with managing and transforming archives into a vital aspect of your organization's program.

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### **Building a Digital Readiness Community of Practice**

Kristen Whitson, Digital Readiness Program Assistant, Recollection Wisconsin, and Guests

Join Recollection Wisconsin and subject experts for an interactive workshop supporting local history practitioners interested in digital projects! Learn about digital readiness tools and resources developed as part of "Building a Digital Readiness Community of Practice." Speakers will introduce the Digital Readiness Levels, a tiered structure that informs and supports digital project work at any level. Workshop activities include facilitated discussions on key components of digital work including project planning, digitization best practices, and preservation; small group strategy sessions using the Digital Readiness Levels applied to digital project scenarios; and an introduction to Recollection Wisconsin and how this community of practice can support your digital projects.





## THURSDAY OCT. 21

# AGENDA



### Keynote

9:00-10:00 a.m.



**Keynote:**  
**The Power of Curiosity**  
Emily Graslie

Join science communicator, video host, and educational media producer Emily Graslie for a keynote address that will inspire innovative ideas to engage with audiences and spark our curiosity for learning.

Following her curiosity has taken Emily Graslie everywhere from deep into the bat caves of Kenya to exploring the wonder within our own backyards. Join her to learn about her journey as a science communicator on YouTube and how that experience led her to becoming a trailblazer for PBS on “Prehistoric Road Trip.”

From 2013 to 2020, Graslie worked as the first-ever Chief Curiosity Correspondent for the Field Museum in Chicago, creating more than 200 episodes for [The Brain Scoop](#), a natural history-themed YouTube channel whose videos have been viewed tens of millions of times. Her media productions and storytelling adventures have taken her and her viewers through both space and time, from deep into the bat caves of Kenya to the remote Peruvian Amazon jungle — and from the Cambrian through the Cretaceous by means of geologic and fossil formations across the United States. In 2020, she made her broadcast television debut on PBS in “Prehistoric Road Trip,” an original three-part series exploring the paleontology and natural history of the Dakotas, Montana, and Wyoming.

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### **Historic Preservation Solutions**

Shaw Sprague, National Trust for Historic Preservation

The National Trust for Historic Preservation believes that historic preservation can address some of today's most pressing issues by promoting economic growth, rebuilding communities, utilizing historic places to advance racial equity, and encouraging sustainable and equitable development in rural and urban communities. In this session, you will hear about current federal initiatives and proposed legislation as well as the National Trust's vision for the historic preservation community to address these social and economic objectives. You will also learn about the National Trust's priorities and how your community can save historic sites, tell the stories of all Americans, advance equitable redevelopment, support America's Main Streets in small towns and big cities, and reuse buildings to meet community needs such as affordable housing. **(AIA: 1 LU/HSW)**

### **Wisconsin's Emerging National Heritage Areas**

Jerry Enzler, Board Member, Upper Mississippi River Driftless Alliance

Marty Harding, Chair of the Board of Directors, North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix Heritage Area

Nikki Janisin, Executive Director, Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary, Glacier's Promised Land Emerging NHA

Christopher E. Stein, Chief of Heritage Areas and Large Landscape Initiatives, National Park Service Interior Regions 3, 4, and 5

North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix, Upper Mississippi River Driftless, and Glacier's Promised Land. Learn about each of these special landscapes from the people voluntarily working to get them established by Congress as the United States' newest National Heritage Areas. Why does each panelist think their area is nationally significant? Why do they want this special federal designation? What programs are they engaged in now that will help them achieve this title? Will their grassroots efforts come to fruition? After a general overview of the National Heritage Area program by a representative of the National Park Service, you'll find out all about these three areas and why they deserve this federal recognition.

### **Effective Outreach: Taking Your Stories on the Road without Leaving Your Collections Behind**

Dave Desimone, Site Director, Black Point Estate and Gardens

Joshua Dubbert, Teaching Assistant, Bowling Green University

We all have great stories and interesting collections. Why wait for people to come through the door to learn about them? This session provides step-by-step instruction on how to create an effective outreach program for smaller to mid-sized organizations, with an emphasis on no-cost or low-cost technologies that are available to all. We will discuss how to develop a speakers bureau, create impactful presentations, and take advantage of tools like Zoom for hosting programs and Omeka for sharing collection resources.

### **Museum Store Secrets**

Amanda Schultz, Retail Director, Wisconsin Historical Society

Have you recently been put in charge of buying for your museum store? Or, are you just looking to try something new? Join this session to learn some trade secrets that will help you navigate the world of product development and selection. In this session, you'll learn how to select products for your store, basics of custom product development, and where to source new, interesting items. Vendor names, recommended websites, and more secrets will be shared!



**Pictured above:**  
Darlington's historic Driver's Store and Opera House, built in 1883, was rehabilitated in 2018 using the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program.



## Sessions

11:30 am - 12:30 p.m.

### **Grant-Ready: Best Practices and Tips for Grant Development**

Amy Wyatt, Digital Historic Preservation Coordinator, Wisconsin Historical Society  
Carolyn Wyse, Grants Writer, Wisconsin Historical Foundation

Whether you're new to grant writing or looking for a refresher on best practices, this session will provide helpful tips and guidance for ensuring your organization is grant-ready. From researching grant prospects to preparing grant materials, the presenters will share resources applicable to a broad range of projects and organizations.

### ◀ **Innovative Design Solutions for Tax Credit Projects**

Jen Davel, Midwest Regional Director, Heritage Consulting Group  
Ted Matkom, Wisconsin Market President, Gorman & Company



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No two historic buildings are the same, but sometimes a creative solution used for one project can be copied and used in the next project. No need to reinvent the wheel, right? Ted Matkom and Jen Davel will discuss the most innovative design solutions they've seen in their collective 25 years of experience working on historic tax credit projects. **(AIA: 1LU/HSW)**

### **Who Actually Owns My Stuff? Donations, Copyright, and Use**

Jonathon Nelson, Collection Development Archivist, Wisconsin Historical Society  
Emily Pfotenhauer, Program Manager, WiLS

In this session, speakers will explore issues surrounding the ownership and use of archival collections. Wisconsin Historical Society Collections Development Archivist Jonathon Nelson will discuss the basics of donor agreements and accessions and how the ownership of archival materials is transferred to collecting organizations. WiLS Program Manager Emily Pfotenhauer will discuss common copyright questions for archival collections, including what counts as "Fair Use" and how content can or can't be shared and re-used online.

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### **The ABCs and 123s of Creating Innovative Local History Exhibits**

Bonnie Byrd, Waukesha County Historical Society & Museum  
Jarrod Roll, Monroe County Local History Room & Museum  
Hannah Scholze, Monroe County Local History Room & Museum

Is your museum considering redoing or creating a permanent exhibit that tells the story of your community or county? Looking for creative ways of incorporating hands-on elements or utilizing artifacts from your collection in an exhibit? Hear from the creators of "Monroe County: A to Z" and "History of Waukesha in 100 Objects" about how they successfully developed creative, interactive, and community-inclusive exhibits for all ages. Discussion topics will include the exhibit development process, low-tech interactives examples, creative design elements, exhibit fundraising processes, and unforeseen benefits (and challenges) of undertaking a large exhibit project.

## Sessions 1:30-2:30 p.m.

### Where Does Heritage Tourism Fit in the Larger Travel Puzzle?

Lisa Lefeber, Vice President of Operations, Destination Lake Winnebago Region

The historic places in your community are a vital part of Wisconsin tourism. This session will explain current trends in tourism and how to attract the four major types of travelers. You will also learn practical ideas for marketing and advertising on limited budgets and how to partner with your local chamber or visitors bureau.

### Pendarvis Historic Structure Report

Charles Quagliana, Charles Quagliana Architects



Recognized as a key tool in preservation planning, a historic structure report provides documentary, graphic, and physical information about a property's history, existing condition, and owner goals for preservation. This session will discuss the development of a comprehensive historic structure report for the Wisconsin Historical Society's site Pendarvis, located in Mineral Point. The preparation of a historic structure report is a key element in the evolution of the Pendarvis Historic Site as it refines its interpretation and programming to meet the expectations of a contemporary audience. The general philosophy of the plan is to restore the buildings and site in a manner that is consistent with the historic character and existing fabric of the property while meeting contemporary needs of an educational and museum property. (AIA: 1LU/HSW)

### Unmaking the Museum: Towards a Transformative Approach to Collaborative Curating

Dave Driscoll, Curator of Economic History, Wisconsin Historical Society

Sandie Thao, School of Human Ecology, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Tommy CheeMou Yang, Professor of Architecture, Carnegie Mellon University

Cia Siab in Wisconsin is a community-based and led team made up of Hmong community members. Cia Siab partnered with the Wisconsin History Society starting in 2018 to pursue Cia Siab's vision of telling the HMoob story in Wisconsin. They launched "The Battlefields of Memory" exhibit (virtually and in-person) at University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh during Covid-19, with state- and nation-wide reach. This panel will reflect on Cia Siab's growing partnership with the Society and how the Society's work towards diversity and inclusion required confronting itself as a white institution. Panelists will reflect on the importance of racial justice in the museum world and how accomplishing that goal often requires a reexamination of the curatorial voice, knowledge, and expertise; audience; power; and institutional structures.

### Researching Wisconsin African American Civil War Soldiers

Jeffrey Kannel, Author of "Make Way for Liberty: Wisconsin African Americans in the Civil War"

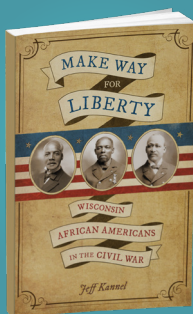
Over 470 Wisconsin African American men were soldiers in the Civil War Army, and many hundreds, perhaps thousands, more were employed by Wisconsin officers and regiments during the war. From research in local libraries, Wisconsin State Historical Society Library and Archives, Wisconsin Veterans Museum Archives, and the National Archives in Washington, D.C., and from personal contacts, a listing of these men and their stories was compiled in the book "[Make Way for Liberty: Wisconsin African Americans in the Civil War](#)." Hear this story of successes and failures, persistence and courage in the face of injustice and racism. Methods and sources used to research the book will be presented.

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Pictured above:

Outside view of the Pendarvis House and Trelawny at the Pendarvis historic site in Mineral Point, Wisconsin.



Pictured left:

"Make Way for Liberty: Wisconsin African Americans in the Civil War," published by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press.

**Pictured below:**

Company G or 107th Trench Mortar Battery Company at training exercises in Camp Douglas, Wisconsin. The Listening to War project preserves the stories of veterans like these.

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## Sessions

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

### **The Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary**

Tamara Thomsen and Caitlin Zant, Maritime Archaeologists,  
Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office

Learn more about the newest NOAA Marine Sanctuary, the Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary. This newly designated sanctuary, located on 962-square miles between Port Washington and Two Rivers, is nationally significant for the architectural and archaeological integrity of the shipwrecks located there, the historical importance of the area, and the potential for discovery of other and submerged pre-contact cultural sites. State Historic Preservation Office maritime archaeologists will discuss the importance of these resources in Wisconsin and national history and what this means for future research and preservation.

### **Accessibility and Additions in Historic Rehabilitation Projects**

Liz Petrella, Architectural Historian, National Park Service



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Property owners wishing to rehabilitate a historic building often face challenges when complying with accessibility requirements or building new additions or construction on site. This session will address how historic buildings can add accessible entries and make alterations that improve access while continuing to meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. The session will also review how the requirements of the Standards can be met while incorporating additions and new construction on a historic property.

**(AIA: 1 LU/HSW)**

### **From the Ground Up: Building and Refining Evaluation Processes**

Sena Dawes, Independent Evaluator

Looking to implement and refine existing evaluation processes? Not sure where or how to start? This session will dig into ways you can implement evaluation practices at your institutions, whether or not you have an internal evaluator. We'll also explore how you can integrate evaluation into your existing duties as well as ways to use evaluation to enhance the visitor experience.

### **Listening to War: Contextualizing Hard History**

Ellen Brooks, Community Memory & Digital Archives Consultant, WiLS  
Briana Fiandt, Curator of Collections, Richard I. Bong Veterans Historical Center  
Troy Reeves, Head, Oral History Program for the University Archives at UW-Madison

This moderated panel of experts will use Recollection Wisconsin's "[Listening to War](#)" project as a springboard for discussing the complexities that are often found within oral history interviews. Oral histories are unique and powerful primary sources, but they can also be messy, containing uncomfortable or troubling content. For example, earlier this year, in the wake of the nationwide wave of violence toward the Asian American and Pacific Islander community, project managers wondered how to sensitively promote a project that contained negative language and sentiments towards wartime adversaries including Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese people. This session brings together a variety of perspectives to facilitate a conversation about how to contextualize and share veterans' oral histories and "hard history" in general.





## FRIDAY OCT. 22

# AGENDA



### Sessions

9:00-10:00 a.m.

#### **Mercer CCC Camp Reborn: A CCC Camp's Legacy**

Jim Bokern, President, Manitowish Waters Historical Society

John Broihahn, Archaeologist

Staff of the Manitowish Waters Historical Society and the State Archaeology and Maritime Preservation Program at the Wisconsin Historical Society completed detailed archival research and field documentation at the Mercer CCC Camp, Manitowish Waters, Wisconsin. On the basis of this work, the MWHS is partnering with the Wisconsin DNR and the Iron County Outdoor Recreational Enthusiasts in the creation of a recreational trail. Join the investigators as they discuss the amazing history of the Mercer CCC Camp and the surprising discoveries as archaeology and history merge to create a 21st-century trail.



Pictured left:  
The bunkhouses of CCC Camp  
Mercer on the Manitowish River,  
circa 1934. WHI 86470

#### **Historic Preservation and Downtown Preservation Efforts**

Jason Scott,

Regional Economic Development Director,  
Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation



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Education**

Historic preservation makes economic sense by making communities viable, livable, and equitable. Learn why and how the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation promotes downtown investments and preservation efforts that benefit the business owner, neighborhood, and community at large. **(AIA: 1 LU)**

#### **Doing LGBTQ+ History in Small City Wisconsin**

Ariel Beaujot, UW-La Crosse

Víctor Macías-González, UW-La Crosse



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Continuing  
Education**

This session will discuss how to find sources for LGBTQ+ history in small cities and highlight recent research done on gay male spaces and practices. It will also review how to create public archives about LGBTQ+ stories and spaces using the audio-documentary project "Hear, Here" of La Crosse, Wisconsin, as an example. **(AIA: 1 LU)**

#### **Writing Local History for Publication**

Daniel C. Kallgren, Associate Professor of History, UW-Green Bay

Eric Morgan, Associate Professor of Democracy and Justice Studies  
and History, UW-Green Bay

This session will discuss the opportunities for writers of local history to publish their work with *Voyageur* magazine. Published twice a year since 1984, *Voyageur* is a nonprofit magazine dedicated to preserving the history of a 26-county area of greater Northeast Wisconsin. Each issue highlights the historic people, places, and events from the region's past. *Voyageur* is distributed to homes, schools, libraries, businesses, and other locations throughout Wisconsin, in nearly all fifty states, and abroad. *Voyageur* is published by the Brown County Historical Society in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

## Sessions 10:30-11:30 a.m.

### **Tax Credits for Historic Building Rehabilitation**

Claire Bushemi and Paul Porter, Tax Credit Reviewers,  
Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office



State Historic Preservation Office staff will provide an overview of the state and federal preservation tax credit programs as well as helpful tips for submitting successful project applications for review. They will also explain the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and how those standards are used to evaluate proposed tax credit projects.

(AIA: 1 LU)

### **Boarding Schools: "Kill the Indian and Save the Man"**

Wisconsin Tribal Historic Preservation Officers

Tribal Historic Preservation Officers will present a very brief history of the Indian Boarding School era circa 1870 through the 1940s and the residual tribal impacts in Wisconsin. The session will recognize a local history not told.

### **Forest History Association of Wisconsin Digital Archives and Outreach**

James Bokern, Manitowish Waters Historical Society

Brad Casselberry, University Records Manager, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

The Forest History Association of Wisconsin (FHAW) is a mature organization of 45 years that intends to migrate much of their archives to digital platforms to better serve their membership. Partnering with Brad Casselberry, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Archivist, the FHAW is actively preserving and sharing an array of historic records. To reach Wisconsin students, the FHAW is developing partnerships with National History Day leaders to empower teachers and students.

### **Historical Markers Ahead: New Directions for Storytelling and Funding**

Fitzie Heimdahl, Historical Markers Program Coordinator, Wisconsin Historical Society

Susan Hughes, Foundation Historian, William G. Pomeroy Foundation

Historical markers are a popular way for communities to share stories of places, people, and events. This session will highlight an exciting new markers project to share the diverse stories of Wisconsin communities through a generous grant from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. The three-year program will emphasize co-curation with community members to identify and create new markers that share underrepresented histories of Wisconsin. Susan Hughes will share an overview of the different types of funding available to non-profits nationwide through the William G. Pomeroy Foundation's marker grant programs that span commemorating food history and the National Register of Historic Places to celebrating folklore and historic transportation canals.

SESSION  
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## **Awards Recognition & Closing Remarks** Noon-12:30 p.m.

### **2021 Board of Curator Awards**

Local History & Historic Preservation Staff

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Join us in celebrating the outstanding achievements of the organizations and individuals recognized by the Board of Curators for excellence in sharing Wisconsin's stories and preserving historic places.



### **Closing Remarks**

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

Christian Øverland, the Ruth and Hartley Barker Director & CEO of the Wisconsin Historical Society, will share closing remarks highlighting inspirations from this year's conference while looking forward to new opportunities for history and preservation organizations to provide relevant, engaging content and programs that connect people with the past.

## **Conference Adjourns**

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### **Save the date for future conferences!**

**October 13-15, 2022**

Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center  
Rothschild, Wisconsin

**October 19-21, 2023**

La Crosse Center  
La Crosse, Wisconsin

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**October 17-19, 2024**

Red Lion Paper Valley  
Appleton, Wisconsin