



# World Heritage USA

Quarterly Newsletter for Members of US/ICOMOS

Q3 2017 (July - September)

## Meet our Newest Trustees

Please help us welcome US/ICOMOS's four new dedicated and talented members-at-large of the board of trustees. They are:



### Aysar Akrawi

An Iraqi by birth, Aysar Akrawi was Executive Director of the Petra National Trust (PNT) in Jordan for 22 years. At PNT, she approached cultural preservation holistically, actively promoting the preservation of intangible heritage and the inclusion of communities surrounding the World Heritage site in addition to conserving and interpreting the Petra site. Aysar now resides in the United States, where she will bring her experience in cultural heritage and its preservation to the work of US/ICOMOS both nationally and internationally. Aysar will serve a three-year term as trustee.



### Leslee F. Keys, Ph.D.

Leslee Keys currently serves as Assistant Professor and Director of Historic Preservation and Special Initiatives at Flagler College in St. Augustine, Florida. She came to this role after 30 years of government and non-profit leadership in Ohio, Kentucky and Florida, where she has addressed environmental threats to coastal resources. Leslee will bring this wealth of experience to the board of trustees of US/ICOMOS while also benefiting the rich cultural resources of St. Augustine and Flagler College during her three-year term.



### Adam Markham

Adam Markham, elected to a three-year term as trustee, is Deputy Director of the Climate & Energy Program at the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), where he leads the organization's work on climate change. At UCS and for the last 3 years with US/ICOMOS, Adam has worked to bring attention to the impacts of climate change on cultural heritage and historic sites. As a trustee, Adam will support and further develop our work on heritage and climate change; identify ways in which the ICOMOS International Scientific Committees could most effectively address heritage management and preservation in a rapidly changing climate; and provide a conduit to the climate science and policy communities.



## Kathryn Washburn

Kathryn Washburn previously served as the Director of International Relations at the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) from 1989-2010, where she developed and managed a program that enabled hundreds of DOI experts to provide technical assistance to over 50 countries on such subjects as park management, World Heritage site nomination, and water resource management. As a two-year trustee of US/ICOMOS Kathryn will participate in development; and grow peer-to-peer relations and facilitate knowledge exchange with board members in other countries.

# US/ICOMOS News



## US/ICOMOS Proposes Sub-Saharan Africa Partnership

US/ICOMOS Chair Douglas Comer has proposed a 2018 meeting with well-established national committees and emerging and established national committees in Sub-Saharan Africa. The meeting and larger partnership's dual goals are sharing the best practices of existing national committees and discussing the formulation of World Heritage Tentative Lists.

Partnership planning and discussion will take place at two upcoming events:

- The [2017 ICAHM meeting 'Sub-Saharan Africa and International Trade Routes' in Bagamoyo/Dar es Salaam](#), Tanzania. This meeting will focus on Trade Routes to and from Sub-Saharan Africa to the Rest of the World, the [Africa Initiative](#), Conservation and Sustainable use of Paleoanthropological Sites, World Heritage Sites as Sources for Sustainable Development and Digital Technologies.
- The [19th ICOMOS General Assembly and Scientific Symposium in New Delhi from 11-15 December 2017](#), whose theme is "Heritage & Democracy." A meeting time and place will be announced for the Sub-Saharan Africa Partnership meeting.

## Board of Trustees to Meet at Grand Canyon National Park

The US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees will meet with managers and friends from Grand Canyon National Park (World Heritage Site inscribed 1979) and Chaco Culture National Historical Park (World Heritage Site

inscribed 1987) from September 17th to the 19th, 2017. The board will discuss stewardship challenges and opportunities at these two U.S. World Heritage sites.

## Member Survey Results: Highlights

We wish to thank the 100+ current and former members who completed our recent Member Survey. It provided the board of trustees and staff with a comprehensive overview of who our members are, what the organization is doing well, and where US/ICOMOS can improve. The interrelated topics of knowledge, networking, and engagement emerged as dominant themes:

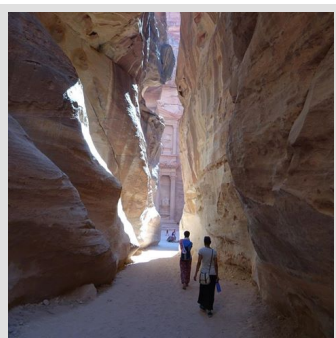
**Knowledge:** The number one reason members join US/ICOMOS is to “learn more about international preservation issues and World Heritage sites” (79%). Members highly value the Annual Symposium and International Scientific Committee participation as opportunities to learn and network. They also appreciate collaboration with other organizations and would like to see more of this in the future with a wider array of professional and other organizations.

**Networking:** Members are very interested in networking opportunities and feel that US/ICOMOS should provide more of these. 78% of respondents indicated that they joined to meet, network and exchange information with professional peers. 58% chose “networking opportunities” as a member activity they would like to participate in, the #1 rated choice. Finally, the majority of suggestions for improving our benefits pertained to networking.

**Engagement:** Members told us that US/ICOMOS has the opportunity to better inform and engage our members about programs, activities, events and volunteer opportunities. We heard about a thirst for more information about World Heritage sites, news and the World Heritage site nomination process along with more information about what members in the U.S. are doing and can do to participate. 52% of respondents indicated that they are willing to volunteer and made it clear that it would be beneficial to members, the organization, and World Heritage as a whole to find new and more fulfilling ways for younger professionals to get involved.

US/ICOMOS is already implementing new initiatives and communications based on the survey results. Please keep an eye out for these and feel free to contact us any time with your suggestions or comments by emailing [director@usicomos.org](mailto:director@usicomos.org).

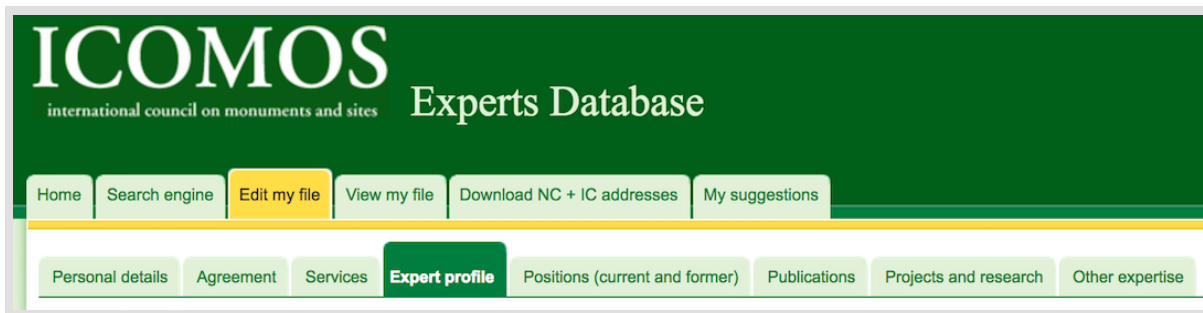
## Follow US\_ICOMOS on Instagram



The 2017 IEP participants have been posting some stunning photos in our new US/ICOMOS Instagram feed. If you're on Instagram, please follow [us\\_icomos](https://www.instagram.com/us_icomos/). Or visit this page to enjoy and share in what these young people are seeing and doing all over the world: [https://www.instagram.com/us\\_icomos/](https://www.instagram.com/us_icomos/)

# ICOMOS News

## Have You Updated Your ICOMOS Expert Profile?



US/ICOMOS encourages our international members to update your ICOMOS expert profiles. This will greatly assist our efforts to recruit U.S. experts for international opportunities such as technical evaluations and desk reviews for World Heritage site nominations.

To update your profile, log in to the [ICOMOS Membership and Expert Database](#) with the member login and password sent to you by ICOMOS when you joined. Once you have logged in, click on the "Edit my file" tab (highlighted in yellow above) and provide as much information as you wish to share. The key tabs to complete are "Services" and "Expert profile." Accurate, detailed information is crucial!



The ICOMOS Triennial General Assembly and Scientific Symposium is only five months away. [Learn more and make plans to participate in New Delhi here.](#)

## Get Involved

### Join Us for the International Exchange Program (IEP) Closing Symposium and Reception on August 16th



#### Closing Symposium

Please RSVP to attend the stimulating final program symposium of the Summer 2017 Class of the US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program, "Sustaining Cultural Heritage in the 21st Century." The



members of the Summer 2017 Class, emerging heritage professionals from Ethiopia, India, Lithuania, New Zealand, Pakistan and the United States will speak individually and in panels on their work in Climate Change and Heritage, Heritage as a Pillar of Sustainable Development and World Heritage Management. Their projects reflect work undertaken in France, India, Israel, Jordan, Lithuania, Trinidad and Tobago and across the United States.

[The Symposium will take place on Wednesday, August 16, 2017, from 2:30 - 5 pm EDT at the Heurich House, US/ICOMOS headquarters in Washington, DC. RSVP to the Symposium \[here\]\(#\).](#)



## Closing Reception

You are invited to attend a reception honoring the Class of 2017 of the US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program at the conclusion of the summer program. [The reception will follow the conclusion of the Symposium, from 5:30 - 7 pm EDT on August 16, 2017, at the Heurich House. RSVP to the Closing Reception \[here\]\(#\).](#)

Please RSVP separately for each event and feel free to attend either or both. We hope to see at the Heurich House on August 16th!

## ***Speaking of the IEP, Are You a Former International Exchange Program Participant?***

Or do you know any former IEP participants? We are in the process of updating our records and would appreciate your help! If you are a former participant, please fill in this form:

<http://usicomos.org/internship/alumni-network/>

If you know any former participants, please email them this newsletter and ask them to [follow the link](#) if they're not already in touch with us. Thank you for your assistance!



## **LEADERSHIP FORUM AND BENEFIT**

November 29–30, 2017  
Washington, DC

## **Mark your Calendar: The 2017 US/ICOMOS Leadership Forum and Benefit will take place in Washington, DC on November 29th and 30th.**

Join your fellow US/ICOMOS members and international heritage experts for a deep dive into the current structure of the World Heritage Program and an opportunity to assess the current and future role of the US and US/ICOMOS at home and abroad in stewarding the heritage assets of the world. Registration information will be emailed soon.

Follow us on social media for real-time reporting on calendar items and deadlines, upcoming conferences and events, and breaking news



US/ICOMOS is a U.S. historic preservation nonprofit whose mission includes both supporting the UNESCO World Heritage program and promoting international exchange in the cultural heritage field. You can learn more about us at [usicomos.org](http://usicomos.org).