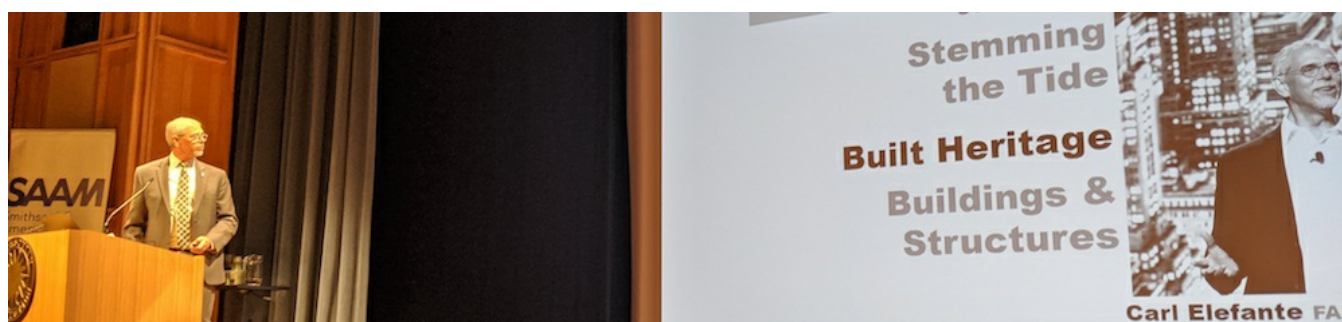


[View this email in your browser](#)



## US/ICOMOS at Work

March 2020 E-News



Welcome to "US/ICOMOS at Work," a monthly update on what US/ICOMOS is doing to preserve and promote world heritage and international knowledge exchange on preservation topics. We share these brief communications monthly with our members and supporters. Image: Carl Elefante, FAIA, FAPT, LEED AP, presenting at the Smithsonian Institution "Stemming the Tide" Symposium on March 5, 2020. Read more about this symposium below.

### — LATEST NEWS & EVENTS —

## US/ICOMOS Will Postpone the 11th Annual Celebration of World Heritage

US/ICOMOS has made the decision to postpone the 11th annual Celebration of World Heritage, scheduled for June 18, 2020, in Washington, D.C. due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. We plan to reschedule our Celebration of World Heritage as soon as it is possible and will share that information with you!



As US/ICOMOS members, we celebrate humankind's most notable accomplishments. US/ICOMOS will need your support in the troubled economic times ahead to move forward with the many successful US/ICOMOS initiatives that increase the societal and economic

benefits flowing from the designation as World Heritage Sites of places with "Outstanding Universal Value", e.g. the recent inscription of the Frank Lloyd Wright Sites.

We rely on our successful Celebration of World Heritage each year to fund all our programs. [Please consider donating to the US/ICOMOS general fund, for the International Exchange Program](#), which has graduated hundreds of heritage professionals that now work around the world, or help us match the very generous Challenge Grant of \$500,000, which will be essential for US/ICOMOS to achieve our critical mission.



Please stay safe, and maintain your involvement with US/ICOMOS electronically until we meet again in person. Your continued support of US/ICOMOS is deeply appreciated!

With Our Best Wishes - the Executive Committee of US/ICOMOS



### **"Stemming the Tide" Symposium a Resounding Call to Action for Cultural Heritage Professionals**

Andrew Potts (pictured at left), Coordinator of the ICOMOS Climate Change and Heritage Working Group, organized an informative, inspirational and action-oriented two day symposium entitled ["Stemming the Tide: Global Strategies for Sustaining Cultural Heritage Through Climate Change."](#)

The objective of "Stemming the Tide" was to empower cultural heritage authorities, managers, and advocates to pursue more ambitious engagement and collaborative approaches with climate change matters. Consequently, symposium speakers presented both data about what needs to be done to adapt to and combat climate change and concrete actions that their organizations are implementing. A publication based on the symposium's presentations and breakout session results will be published by the Smithsonian in October.

[Read more and see select presentation slides on our website...](#)



### **"Current Approaches to the Conservation of Conflict-Affected Heritage" Symposium Highlights Cutting-Edge Work in Conflict Zones**

International experts from the historic preservation, museum, and

conservation fields gathered on 28 February 2020 at the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington D.C. for a day-long symposium addressing the latest developments in preventing and mitigating damage to threatened cultural heritage across the globe. US/ICOMOS Trustee Brian Michael Lione and nine other speakers presented case studies of preservation and conservation initiatives taking place in Iraq, northwest Syria, Yemen, Afghanistan, and Ukraine. Topics discussed ranged from large-scale international educational exchanges led by organizations including the Smithsonian's Museum Conservation Institute and the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) to the application of innovative scientific methods such as ballistic damage morphology and X-ray fluorescence (XRF) analysis to damaged or looted artifacts. Although the scale of damage can be daunting, the conference emphasized the successes that can result from sustained efforts to address cultural heritage needs both during and after conflict.

For more on the event, which was organized by the Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative (SCRI), the Smithsonian Museum Conservation Institute, and the International Council of Museums Disaster Resilient Museums Committee, please see here:

<https://culturalrescue.si.edu/resources2/upcoming-events/>

Image: Smithsonian-Iraqi team prepares for the Nimrud Rescue Operation. Credit: Iraqi Institute for the Conservation of Antiquities and Heritage.

---

## **US/ICOMOS Signs on to Letter Advocating Against Proposed Revisions to the National Environmental Policy Act**

US/ICOMOS signed on to a letter representing the collective comments of 328 organizations and tribal nations, representing millions of members and supporters, responding to the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) proposed revisions to regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Many of our organizations and members will also be submitting individual comments.

The letter states that "the proposed revision of CEQ's NEPA regulations is deeply flawed, violates the letter and intent of NEPA and will not satisfy the objectives of this exercise as articulated in the preamble. It is therefore arbitrary and capricious and must be withdrawn."

Read the full letter here: [NEPA Final Draft Comment Letter 3 10 20](#).

---

*Editor's Note: US/ICOMOS is tracking the progress of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the US and around the world. The health and safety of all participants - interns and hosts alike - are our priority, and we will consider all actions necessary to ensure that all remain safe. At this time, US/ICOMOS intends to hold the 2020 International Exchange Program as planned. We will continue to consult official, fact-based information sources,*

*primarily the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's COVID-19 website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>), to monitor the situation. US/ICOMOS reserves the right to postpone or cancel the program, and will respect the decision of any host or intern to not participate in 2020 due to COVID-19. As we carefully proceed with the 2020 IEP we will continue to highlight our host organizations.*



### Introducing our IEP Hosts: [Proskene Conservation & Cultural Heritage](#)

Each year, organizations all over the world host interns participating in the US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program.

[Proskene Conservation & Cultural Heritage](#) of Madrid, Spain, will serve as an IEP host for the first time in 2020. To get to know Proskene, we reached out to Preservation Architectural Engineer Marieta Núñez García to discuss the firm's work and its plans for this summer's exchange.

Proskene Conservation & Cultural Heritage is a multidisciplinary team of specialists who work on restoration, preservation, intervention and adaptive reuse projects of historic buildings and sites. Marieta wrote, "We are very happy to be able to participate with the IEP for the first time, because we believe in the power of cultural heritage and exchange programs in order to gain multifaceted, respectful and bridging perspectives of society, so much needed for building a more sustainable future for all. Feel free to visit our [website](#) or [Linkedin](#) if you want to know more about our team!"

Read the complete interview to learn more about Proskene and the projects this summer's intern will be working on: <https://usicomos.org/introducing-our-international-exchange-program-hosts-prosekene/>



### We Need You!

Submit Your Photos for [2020 International Day for Monuments and Sites](#) (aka World Heritage Day) on 18 April 2020

World Heritage Day will take place this year on Saturday 18 April. This year's theme is ***Shared Cultures, Shared Heritage, Shared Responsibility.***

To help celebrate and spread the word about World Heritage in the United States, we are asking our members, trustees and friends to submit your photos of U.S. World Heritage sites



for us to share on our social media pages ([Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)) before and on World Heritage Day. For consideration, please email us a photo or two along with your name and the name of the site. We will post as many of these as we are able!

More information about World Heritage Day can be found here: <https://www.icomos.org/en/focus/18-april-international-day-for-monuments-and-sites>

---

— OF NOTE —

---

## **Disasters and Protecting Cultural Heritage By Chris Marrion, ICORP President**

The [UNESCO Chair Programme on Cultural Heritage and Risk Management, International Training Course \(ITC\) on Disaster Risk Management of Cultural Heritage 2020](#), will be held from 2nd September to 24th September, 2020, in Kyoto, Japan. [Applications to participate are due Monday 6 April 2020](#).



Read the entire article on our website here: <https://usicomos.org/protecting-cultural-heritage-from-disasters-by-chris-marrion-icorp-president/>

Photo: Christopher Marrion, President of ICOMOS/ICORP, Director-Marrion Fire & Risk Consulting teaching courses on fire/disaster risk management for the UNESCO Chair Programme at the ITC in Ritsumeikan, Japan.

---

## **ICOMOS Interpretation (ICIP) 2020 Conference at Angkor, 26-29 September 2020**

The Board of the ICOMOS International Committee for the Interpretation and Presentation of Cultural Heritage Sites (ICIP) is pleased to announce the ICOMOS Interpretation 2020 Conference at Angkor, Cambodia. The conference will take place 28-29 September 2020 with pre-conference tours 26-27 September.

The ICIP Board is honored to be partnering with APSARA National Authority (Authority for the Protection of the Site and Management of the Region of Angkor). This conference will be held immediately before the 2020 ICOMOS General Assembly in Sydney, to enable attendees to stopover in Asia before continuing on to Sydney.

For further information, and to register for this conference, please click on the link below: <https://icipangkor2020.eventbrite.com>

### ***Important Dates***

- Deadline for presentation proposals is **Monday, 6 April 2020**
- Early-bird registration will close on Tuesday, 5 May 2020
- Registration will close on Friday, 31 July 2020

---

## Call for Abstracts: Terra 2021

### Terra 2021 World Congress on Earthen Architectural Heritage

will take place in Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA from 8-

11 June 2021. Organized by the earthen architecture community under the aegis of ICOMOS, Terra 2021 is

expected to draw up to 600 specialists in the fields of

conservation, anthropology, archaeology, architecture and engineering, scientific research, site management, and sustainable development of earthen architectural heritage.

The Call for Abstracts is now open and abstract submissions for oral presentations, posters, and video / digital media are currently being accepted. The deadline for submission is **1 April 2020**. Abstracts must describe the content of the presentation, poster, video or media presentation in English or Spanish, and should be no longer than 300 words. Learn more here: <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/website/8033/call-for-abstracts/>



---

*Join the Conversation on Social Media*



*and Please Forward this Newsletter to  
Friends and Colleagues!*

---

US/ICOMOS is a US 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).

---

*Copyright © 2020 US/ICOMOS, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



