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US/ICOMOS at Work

May 2021 E-News



Welcome to "US/ICOMOS at Work," a monthly update on US/ICOMOS actions to preserve and promote World Heritage and international knowledge exchange on preservation topics. We share these brief communications monthly with our members and supporters. Above: Grand Canyon National Park and World Heritage Site will be featured in our [May World Heritage Webinar](#). Read more below.

— LATEST NEWS & EVENTS —

This Preservation Month, Join Us to #TellTheFullStory



Since 1973, preservationists have joined the National Trust for Historic Preservation and other preservation organizations in celebrating historic places during May. This year, Preservation Month focuses on telling the full American story, offering a wide variety of ways to discover and save places that showcase the depth and diversity of our nation's history. [Learn more about the Trust's efforts here.](#)

US/ICOMOS's World Heritage Webinars throughout 2021 help #TellTheFullStory by presenting Native American contributions to U.S. World Heritage Sites and the National Park Service's current work with tribes to provide access and to educate visitors. We hope that you will register and attend, [especially this month as we #TellTheFullStory about efforts to increase](#)

[tribal cooperation and representation at Grand Canyon National Park and World Heritage Site.](#)

If you miss a World Heritage Webinar, [all of our past webinars can be found here](#). Our most recent webinar "[Diversifying Heritage in the United States](#)" is particularly timely as we attempt to #TellTheFullStory.

Register Now: [Showcasing Tribal Cultural Heritage at Grand Canyon National Park and World Heritage Site](#)

Thursday, May 27, 2021, 12 to 1 pm EDT (9-10 am MDT)

	 <p>Showcasing Tribal Cultural Heritage at Grand Canyon National Park and World Heritage Site</p>
<p>Thursday May 27, 2021 12 – 1 pm EDT</p>	<p>Free/Contribution Optional Webinar featuring Park and Tribal Leaders</p>

Indigenous people have lived in and around the Grand Canyon since time immemorial, yet up until recently their cultural heritage and history have largely been unknown at the National Park (NP) and World Heritage Site (WHS). In this webinar, Grand Canyon NP Superintendent Ed Keable, staff and colleagues from tribal communities and stakeholder groups will discuss efforts underway to educate and inspire visitors with new perspectives on Grand Canyon's tribal past, present and future.

[Join us](#) to learn about how the park is incorporating first-voices and perspectives into its management and interpretive programs and how re-envisioning the experience at the Desert View area of the park will expand the visitor experience and provide for native people to share their histories about Grand Canyon as home.

OUR SPEAKERS

Dorothy Firecloud, National Park Service (NPS) Assistant to the Director,
Native American Liaison

Dorothy FireCloud is a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. She has a Juris Doctorate from the New Mexico School of Law and has been a member of the New Mexico State Bar since 1991. In her role overseeing the NPS Office of Native American Affairs (formerly the American Indian Liaison Office), Dorothy provides guidance and support to NPS field and program managers to strengthen relationships with Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and other indigenous communities.

Mae Franklin, Navajo Nation member and Cameron Chapter resident

Mae Franklin is a member of the Grand Canyon Inter-tribal Working Group. Mae has worked for both the U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service, where she recently retired as the tribal liaison for the Kaibab National Forest.

Edward T. Keable, Superintendent, Grand Canyon National Park

Edward T. Keable is the Superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park. Before coming to the National Park Service, Ed served as the Associate Solicitor of General Law in the Office of the Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior, in Washington, DC. He has held multiple Senior Executive Service positions in the Office of the Solicitor since 2003. His philosophy focuses on merging management with leadership—and making sure that he gets out into the field to meet staff where they work every day.

Grace Lilly, Interpretive Park Ranger, Grand Canyon National Park

As an Interpretive Park Ranger, Grace Lilly has been instrumental in developing and growing the cultural demonstration program at Desert View, working with cultural demonstrators and artists to bring their work to the public.

Jack Pongyesva, Program Manager for the Intertribal Centennial Conversations Group (ICCG), Grand Canyon Trust

Arizonan Jack Pongyesva grew up in Oak Creek Canyon, attended Flagstaff High School, and spent many weekends, summers, and school breaks in Hotevilla, on Third Mesa of the Hopi Reservation. Jack began his

work as ICCG Program Manager in 2018. The ICCG program functions under the guidance of 35 Native community leaders from the 11 associated Grand Canyon Tribes, to bring all aspects of Indigenous presence and history back to the canyon over the next 100 years and beyond.

OUR MODERATOR

Jan Balsom, Chief, Communications, Partnerships and External Affairs, Office of the Superintendent, Grand Canyon National Park

Jan Balsom began her work at Grand Canyon NP as a volunteer in 1981, and continues it today leading Communications, Partnerships and External Affairs at the park. Jan received her Bachelor's in anthropology from SUNY at Buffalo and her Master's in anthropology from Arizona State University. In addition to her work with the National Park Service, Jan serves as

the federal representative to the Arizona State Historic Sites Review Committee.

**Our webinars are free but we would appreciate your support!
Please register, donate and join US/COMOS as a member now.**

National Park Status Sought for Cahokia Mounds World Heritage Site

[Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site](#), the largest pre-Columbian settlement north of Mexico, was inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 1982. The site has been

managed by the state of Illinois but many believe that it would receive more national and international attention and resources if it were also a National Park. [Recently, two members of Illinois' congressional delegation introduced bills in both the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate to make this a reality.](#)

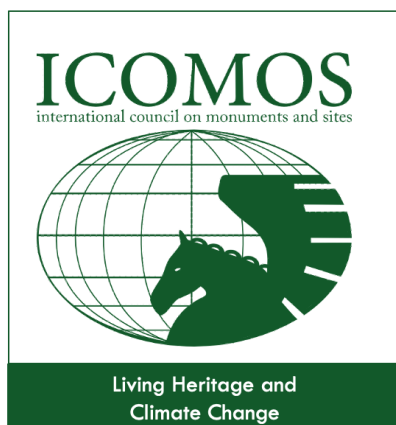


Mary Delich Leonard | St. Louis Public Radio

Representative Mike Bost and Senator Dick Durbin filed legislation to establish the Cahokia Mounds and Mississippian Culture National Historic Park, to be managed by the National Park Service along with state and local agencies. The new park would include Cahokia Mounds in Collinsville, Sugarloaf Mound in St. Louis and other ancient mounds in St. Clair, Madison and Monroe counties. [Tribal ancestors of the Mississippian peoples approve of the redesignation, as it would elevate the status of the park, as well as providing added resources and stronger protections to the ancient mounds.](#)

US/ICOMOS supports this legislation and will keep our members and followers updated on its progress.

Call for Proposals: ICOMOS Advisory Committee 2021 Scientific Symposium - Deadline: 22 May



Living heritage provides people with their sense of identity and is continuously regenerating in response to their environment. But we live in a time of rapid environmental change accelerated by the current climate crisis. Our responses to this crisis have the potential to strengthen our living heritage or destroy it.

This is the first of the series of annual Scientific Symposia that are part of the [Triennial Scientific Plan \(TSP\) 2021-24 Climate Change Reboot](#) focusing proposed ICOMOS meetings and Scientific Symposia on how climate change impacts specific heritage places and issues.

The 2021 Scientific Symposium asks participant to look at how these inter-related considerations play out in the context of living heritage amidst climate

change, including how they affect heritage communities as well as understanding, assessing and managing places directly or tangibly associated with living traditions, ideas, beliefs, and/or artistic and literary works.

You can **download the full call of the ICOMOS 2021 Scientific Symposium** in [English](#) here. To learn more about Symposium and Call for Proposals, [visit our website](#).

— OF NOTE —

Call for Expressions of Interest: Project Leader Consultant, Los Angeles African American Historic Places - Deadline: 31 May



Barber shops such as Magnificent Brothers, in operation in the Crenshaw district since 1970, could be found eligible for listing based on their social significance to the community. Photo: Elizabeth Daniels, © J. Paul Getty Trust.

In 2020, the Getty Conservation Institute began a collaborative project with Los Angeles City Planning, Office of Historic Resources to identify, protect, and celebrate the city's Black heritage. The project provides the opportunity to rethink historic preservation policies and processes to better support social justice and equity goals. This work will offer a potential model for future initiatives related to other communities in Los Angeles and beyond.

Getty and [Los Angeles City Planning](#) are currently seeking expressions of interest for a project leader consultant to further develop, manage, and implement the work of this project under the guidance of a soon-to-be established local advisory committee representing key stakeholders in the city's African American communities.

Read more and download the Call for Expressions of interest document:
<https://gty.art/3sU9Kyc>

Expressions of Interest Due date: May 31, 2021

Heritage and Hope at the Mafundi Building in Watts

Trustee Peyton Hall, FAIA, and University of Southern California (USC) students recently completed a study of the Watts Happening



Cultural Center, home of the Mafundi Institute, in Los Angeles. [The May 13 USC SaveAs podcast features their work.](#)

As L.A.'s Watts neighborhood reeled from the 1965 Rebellion against systemic injustice, Black architects and civil rights activists Art Silvers and Robert Kennard designed a place of healing and hope. The Watts Happening Cultural Center opened in 1970 as the home of the Mafundi Institute ("mafundi" is Swahili for artisans or craftspeople), which provided a vital creative outlet for self-expression and Black empowerment. Now widely known as the Mafundi building, this Late Modern gem is a rare symbol of art and culture with an uncertain future.

USC's Materials Conservation class studied the building this term, using pandemic workarounds to assess everything from the windows to the coffee shop's collection. Join us for a humdinger of a season finale about the Mafundi building's history, significance, condition, and precarious situation. Learn about the class project from instructor Peyton Hall, FAIA and students Arabella Delgado, Emi Takahara, and Melissa Miller. And hear from alumna Rita Cofield, a lifelong community member and part of the grassroots preservation effort, about what this place means to the people of Watts and how you can help.

[Listen here](#) as a new generation of students helps #TellTheWholeStory. To access the entire series of podcasts, [click here](#).

3DPAST European Research Project Concludes



3DPAST's aim was to promote a deeper understanding of vernacular architecture at European World Heritage Sites through architectural and historical research presented in a digital and multimedia way to reach new audiences. The project was coordinated by Escola Superior Gallaecia, as project leader, University of Florence and University Politecnica de València, as partners.

Visit the 3DPAST website to see the projects many outputs, including publications, videos and site studies: <https://esg.pt/3dpast/>

Join US/ICOMOS for 2021 and Receive Your V-Card in One Week

Your membership in US/ICOMOS underwrites our efforts to foster heritage conservation and historic preservation through education, training and international exchange. Your active participation helps grow American understanding of and appreciation for World Heritage sites in the United States and around the world.

We encourage you to join us as an Individual or Institutional member as we work together to promote intercultural understanding and heritage conservation around the globe and over the span of human history.

Learn more and join here: <https://usicomos.org/membership/>

Join the Conversation on Social Media



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

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.

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