World Heritage USA supports the work of the U.S. National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS-USA). We share these brief communications monthly with our supporters.

In Honor of Indigenous Peoples’ Day

“On Indigenous Peoples’ Day, we honor the perseverance and courage of Indigenous peoples, show our gratitude for the myriad contributions they have made to our world, and renew our commitment to respect Tribal sovereignty and self-determination.” Read more of President Biden’s Proclamation.
Why Attend Symposium 2023 in San Antonio?
Explore and celebrate the cultural identities that make up our shared heritage. Learn about recognition of Indigenous cultural heritage at natural World Heritage Sites; U.S./Mexico cooperation around our shared heritage; community revitalization; and what it takes to become a World Heritage Site. Register today for 1-3 November: Agenda, hotel recommendations and registration information.

Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks: Newest U.S. World Heritage Site
The World Heritage Committee inscribed the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks on the World Heritage List on September 19, 2023. Comprised of 8 sites in south central Ohio, learn more about this invaluable Indigenous heritage and plan your visit soon. You can also celebrate Hopewell and learn about what it takes to become at World Heritage Site at our 2023 Symposium.

A Sincere Thank You to Stephen J. Farneth
We wish to thank departing trustee and longtime international heritage leader Stephen J. Farneth, FAIA, LEED AP, for his service as a Trustee and executive committee member. Steve’s “creative pragmatism and good-sense leadership” have been much appreciated by his fellow trustees and staff over the past two years of his most recent term on the Board of Trustees. Thank you, Steve!
ICOMOS-USA Needs You

An [ICOMOS-USA International Membership](#) includes many benefits, including free or reduced admission to heritage sites and museums worldwide, the chance to participate in ICOMOS International Scientific Committees, reduced registration fees to our events, and much more. All 2024 members of ICOMOS-USA will also be recognized as founding members of World Heritage USA. **Join or renew for 2024 now!**

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The Monuments Toolkit Project

The Monuments Toolkit Project recently celebrated its second anniversary. The team is currently editing case studies and completing work on an App that will allow the public to submit and track monuments in their own communities and across the U.S. In addition, they’re planning a webinar on 27 October (see directly below!) and Cequyna Moore, Director of the Monuments Toolkit Project, will present the Keynote address on 3 November at our Annual Symposium. **Please join us to hear her speak about the project!**

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Monuments Toolkit Webinar: 27 October

The Monuments Toolkit team will host “The Conservation of Divisive Monuments,” a free webinar about the Angel of Independence—El Ángel de la Independencia—a 1910 monument in Mexico City. El Ángel, despite controversy, is being conserved in a transformative public space. Register now to learn about the conservation of this contested monument on October 27th at 3 pm.
Missed the International Exchange Program Closing Symposium?
You’re in luck: all of the final presentations are available on our Youtube channel. Watch them individually or in sequence and learn all about our IEP interns’ experiences at U.S. sites and at sites around the world. Watch here. Thank you to all of our wonderful interns and host organizations! Information about IEP 2024 will be shared soon.

“Seeking Freedom in Mexico” Webinar Recording Now Available
Click here to watch our September World Heritage webinar on the legacy of the Underground Railroad in Nacimiento de los Negros Mascogos, Mexico, a community founded by freedom-seekers who escaped from slavery in the United States. This webinar addresses the history, impact, and legacy of the Underground Railroad’s lesser known routes into Mexico.

Results of the 21st ICOMOS General Assembly (Sydney 2023)
Click here to read a final communication about the General Assembly in Sydney: learn about the resolutions adopted and new board members elected, and find links to video recordings of many sessions.

National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program Announces New Listings
NPS announced that 23 sites have been added to the Network to Freedom, including the Network’s first international listing, a church in Ontario, Canada. The program recognizes places and programs with verifiable connections to the Underground Railroad and the resistance to enslavement through escape or flight. World Heritage USA is a network partner.
New Indigenous Ranger Intern Program
Mesa Verde World Heritage Site and National Park has a new Indigenous Ranger intern program which includes young Indigenous people from the Four Corners region in the storytelling at the national park. The park has also recently changed museum displays and signage at the park to more accurately portray the park’s Indigenous heritage. Read more.

Getty Graduate Internships: Deadline 1 November
Apply now for graduate Internships in the four programs of the J. Paul Getty Trust—the Getty Museum, the Getty Conservation Institute, the Getty Research Institute, and the Getty Foundation—and in Getty Publications and Getty Digital. Information about applying can be found here.

Archaeological Tropes that Perpetuate Colonialism
Two Indigenous archaeologists from the Southwest shed light on how “abandonment” and other common archaeological terms continue to cause harm. They offer insights into how to rewrite narratives of the past. Read the essay here.

Toolkit Under Development for Climate Action in World Heritage Sites
The UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the ICOMOS, ICCROM AND IUCN advisory bodies are developing their first joint toolkit on climate action for World Heritage. Coordinated through the World Heritage Leadership program, and with initial support from the Australian Government, the toolkit will help States Parties and site managers to integrate climate change action in the management strategies of World Heritage sites. Read the press release.

World Heritage USA provides a gateway for U.S. citizens to experience and participate in international heritage conservation programs and activities and for the international community to learn about the rich and diverse heritage of our nation. In doing so, we uphold and advance the broad goals of ICOMOS, the World Heritage Convention, and the preservation of cultural heritage globally. Learn more about us at WorldHeritageUSA.org.

You Can Make a Difference
ICOMOS-USA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. We rely on your donations to support our many programs and initiatives promoting education and heritage conservation in the United States and around the world. 

Contribute Today

Join the conversation and please forward this newsletter to friends and colleagues.

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