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.

International Exchange Program (IEP) 2024: Apply Now!

Applications for the 2024 IEP are due in early January. Apply as:
- A Host Organization – a heritage organization willing to provide an intern with hands-on training in historic preservation or heritage conservation, or
- An Intern – a graduate student or emerging professional interested in strengthening professional heritage skills while gaining international experience.

Learn about our most important program and see recent interns' projects here.
Call to Action for COP28
We are proud to add our voice to a Global Call to Action with hundreds of artists & cultural organizations asking the UN to put heritage, the arts & creative industries at the heart of Climate Action at COP28. Join us in this global effort - sign on today as an individual or organization: https://www.climateheritage.org/jwd
Learn more about and join the Climate Heritage Network here.

Where Were You 50 Years Ago?
On December 7, 1973, The Carpenters’ hit “Top of the World” was number one and the U.S. ratified the World Heritage Convention. ICOMOS-USA is proud to have played a foundational role in the Convention’s inception and to continue working for its implementation here in the United States and around the world. Thank you for celebrating this important milestone with us and for your ongoing support.

Symposium 2023 in Images
In case you missed it, our members and trustees have shared images of their time in San Antonio for our annual Symposium and Celebration. The complete schedule of events and activities is here and we will provide links to session recordings soon. Thank you again to all of our host, sponsors and attendees.
The Monuments Toolkit Project

This year we explored the magnitude of the impact that oppressive monuments have had in communities, countries, and regions worldwide via our Monuments Summer programming and research, our webinars, and our podcast. A review of our Monuments Summer events can be found here.

Webinars

The Monuments Toolkit webinar series, available on our website, offers an international perspective on the importance of public space to generations of activists, artists, volunteers, museum professionals, and heritage organizations.

Podcasts

The Monumental Project podcast features insightful conversations on the topic of monuments of oppression. We have addressed the state of monuments in North Carolina; women in public art; city histories; art and activism in Alabama; and the Stone Mountain monument in Georgia. If you missed any or all of these episodes, listen to them here.

Time to Join for 2024

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 your membership now!
A Truly Unique Heritage Opportunity

World Heritage USA, in conjunction with Dr. Nelly Robles García and our heritage colleagues in Mexico, has developed a 7-day tour of World Heritage sites Monte Albán and Oaxaca. Each trip for 2 includes airfare, hotel, and guided tours. We’re thrilled to offer this World Heritage travel opportunity. Learn about the itinerary and available travel dates here.

The Future of Heritage Belongs to All of Us

Thanks to you, our many initiatives reach more and more people each year. Through recurring and one-time donations, gifts of stock, planned giving, and volunteering, you can help ICOMOS-USA and World Heritage USA continue our work in 2024. We now offer more ways to give online. Visit our website today to make your tax-deductible gift.

Annual Meeting Reminder

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for December 11, the date of this newsletter’s publication. If you have already registered, we will see you online. If you weren’t able to register for the meeting, we will share a recording of it on our Youtube channel soon. Look for a Youtube link and introductions to our new trustees in our January newsletter.

Cultural Heritage is a Human Right. Climate Change is Fast Eroding It
Former trustee Adam Markham has written an important essay about the need for cultural heritage protection to be included in climate policy. Read it here.

Nominate a Site for the 2025 World Heritage Watch
The World Monuments Watch is a nomination-based program that connects local heritage preservation to global awareness and action. Every two years, the Watch rallies support to places in need and the people who care for them, spotlighting new challenges and the communities worldwide harnessing heritage to confront the crucial issues of our time. Nominate a site here.

Native American Land Rights Grow in Industrial Midwest
After Unesco recognized Ohio’s Indigenous ceremonial grounds as a World Heritage Site, Native communities hope to spark a land return movement.

In Memoriam - Jukka Jokilehto (1938-2023)
ICOMOS regrets the passing of Finnish Architect and Urban Planner Jukka Jokilehto. Jokilehto was awarded the ICCROM Award in 2000 as well as Honorary Membership in ICOMOS in 2014 for his outstanding work in the protection of international cultural heritage. Read more.

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.