



NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS Alliance Update

NHAs educate students through internet

As children go back to school this fall, an increasing number of them will use the internet as a learning tool. Many National Heritage Areas (NHA) have created special Web sites aimed at school aged children and educators. These sites vary greatly in their design and intention, but all are intended to draw a new generation into the fascinating and lively history and culture of a particular area. Some sites are aimed directly at students sitting in front of the computer and others at teachers who can download a lesson plan. Still, others are aimed at families who are looking to make a visit to a National Heritage Area more fun and exciting for their children.



The Motorcities Kidz site (<http://www.motorcitieskidz.org>) created by the Motorcities National Heritage

Area in Michigan is bold in color and graphic design. Its brightly colored text invites visitors to "Get ready for the ride of your life as we take you down the MotorCities Highway of Knowledge!"

The site includes a car building and racing game called "Let It Rip" and a slide show from the Henry Ford Museum about the history of the Model T. All is not fun and games on the site however. Lesson plans for teachers have been included as well. These are divided into grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Each plan is accompanied by photos or video making the plans very multi-dimensional.

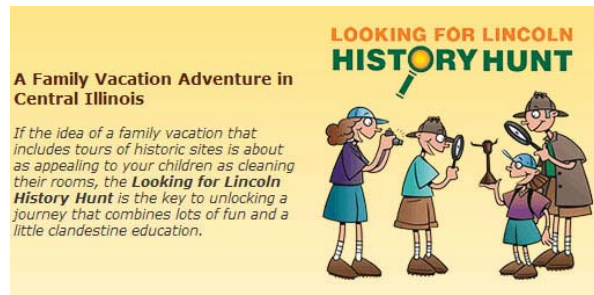


The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area has developed a website called "Teaching

the Hudson Valley" (<http://www.teachingthehudsonvalley.org>).

The site is aimed at teachers and those wanting lesson plans on a wide variety of topics relating to the history and culture of the Hudson River Valley.

Each lesson plan may include a list of sites in the heritage area that highlight a particular topic. Field trips could then be planned according to topic. Topics are not solely focused on social studies but include science as well. The site is searchable by subject area, by grade or by geographic area making it user friendly. Also included is a listing of educational



grants available in the area and an invitation to the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area's summer institute for educators.

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The Looking for Lincoln History Hunt Web site is a product of the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area in Illinois (<http://lookingforlincoln.com/historyhunt.asp>). This site is designed as a treasure hunt for historical facts. The website invites users to print off each of the pages that relate to the Looking for Lincoln sites you plan to visit and let your children answer the History Quest using the clues provided. The answers will be waiting for them at each historic site. Clicking on the link for an historic site brings up a box with a simple description of the site, 2 -3 questions (the answers to which can be found at the site) and a picture of a mystery object that can be located at the site. These boxes can be printed out and taken along in the car on the way to each site.

Teaching with Historic Places

The NPS National Register of Historic Places office has created a Web site "Teaching with Historic Places." The site uses properties listed in the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places to enliven history, social studies, geography, civics, and other subjects. There are a variety of products and activities on the website that help teachers bring historic places into the classroom. <http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/twhp/index.htm>

NEWS *from the* HERITAGE AREAS

Essex National Heritage Commission Launches Scenic Byway Initiative



Travelers along the 64-mile Essex Scenic Byway experience the best of New England: historic seaports, colonial era farms, village and city centers, and a wealth of period architecture. Designated as a state scenic byway for its significant scenic, historic and natural resources, the byway traverses 13 communities and is set against the region's rocky coast and New England's

largest salt marsh.

With funding from the National Scenic Byway Program and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation, The Essex National Heritage Commission (ENHC) recently launched a 21-month planning process to create a byway corridor management plan. Developed with substantial community involvement, the plan will identify strategies for preserving and enhancing the byway's intrinsic qualities, and for promoting and marketing the byway. Once completed, ENHC will pursue designation as Massachusetts' first scenic byway.

In all, 13 communities contain over 8700 properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places as well as several National Historic Landmark properties. Easily accessed are a national wildlife refuge, two state wildlife management areas, numerous beaches, trails, and conservation lands open to the public. Five ENHC visitor centers along the route help byway travelers discover the region's rich heritage. For additional information visit <http://www.essexheritage.org>



Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area Launches New Website

In August Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area launched a new web site with a fresh design, more visitor-friendly navigation, multimedia, and interactive features to communicate its mission – to preserve and promote the industrial and cultural heritage of southwestern Pennsylvania – clearly and creatively with its online audience.

The strategy for the redesign of the web site was three-fold: to engage visitors with interactive features, to harness Rivers of Steel's wealth of archival resources, and to create a site rich in content where visitors would linger and return.

Rivers of Steel's new home page leads with strong visual images that are calls to action to become a member, volunteer,

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or visit events and exhibits at The Bost Building, the main visitor center for Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area. The "Tell Us Your Story" feature invites readers to submit a personal story or memory about working or growing up in southwestern Pennsylvania. The submissions are added to Rivers of Steel's oral history collection. The "Worker's Wall" lists the names of workers submitted by family or friends to honor the men and women who worked in southwestern Pennsylvania's industries and is helping Rivers of Steel to build a database of its supporters. The Regional Folklife Directory, a comprehensive database of traditional artists searchable by traditions, county, and cultural backgrounds, is helping to connect the traditional artists with event planners, schools and senior groups.

Multimedia figures prominently on the home page and gives Rivers of Steel a channel for promoting its collection of archival films related to southwestern Pennsylvania industries. Oral history projects such as the Traditions-Bearers are reaching new online audiences. The original ½ hour radio programs produced by Rivers of Steel to spotlight the individuals and groups who preserve the region's cultural traditions are available 24/7 on the web site. Tourism within Rivers of Steel's eight county area is driven by links to its cell phone tours, TourAnytime, and its online driving guide, Routes to Roots. The website can be found at: <http://www.riversofsteel.com>

Ambassador of France tours the Hudson Valley

On Sunday, July 25, The Honorable Pierre Vimont, Ambassador of France to the United States met with Rep. Maurice Hinchey in Newburgh, NY and Rep. Nita Lowey in Dobbs Ferry, to tour the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area.

The Ambassador participated in a series of public events to celebrate the passage of federal legislation that formally designated the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail. The trail traces and commemorates the 600-mile route from Newport, Rhode Island to Yorktown, Virginia taken in 1781 and 1782 by the armies of General George Washington and General Jean-Baptiste de Rochambeau of France.

The Washington - Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail, which includes portions of the Hudson River Valley and the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, commemorates the important military contributions by France to the American victory in the War of Independence and also helps to focus on the important role played by the Hudson River Valley during the American Revolution.

Schuylkill River Heritage Area opens new gateway centers



Chester County Commissioner Kathi Cozzone cuts the ribbon before the new Gateway Center at French Creek State Park along with, (l to r) Schuylkill River Heritage Area Executive Director Kurt Zwinkl, Chester County Commissioner Terence Farrell, French Creek State Park Manager Eric Brown, and Fran Rubert, Recreation and Park Advisor for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Southeast Regional Office.

The Schuylkill River Heritage Area (SRHA) installed Gateway Centers in two Pennsylvania State Parks this summer. Ceremonies opening the centers at French Creek State Park, in Chester County, and Tuscarora State Park, in Schuylkill County, were both well attended by various state and county officials.

The SRHA's Gateway Centers are essentially information booths intended to enlighten people about the Schuylkill River region's cultural and historic significance, and to introduce them to heritage tourism opportunities. Both Tuscarora and French Creek State Parks are popular recreation destinations. But, many visitors to those parks are probably unaware of all that the surrounding area has to offer. The Gateway Centers provide a broad picture of the region. Each contains a video kiosk with a short video about sites and attractions, as well as a rack with tourism brochures. An illustrated wall map of the Heritage Area highlights the Schuylkill River and its major tributaries, historic communities, trails, and national and state landmarks. A second map outlines sites of interest in the immediate area.

Since 2003, the SRHA has installed sixteen Gateway Centers in well-visited locations across the Schuylkill River National and State Heritage Area, which encompasses sections of Schuylkill, Berks, Montgomery, Chester and Philadelphia

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counties. Over the next several years, about nine more will be added to state parks and selected tourist sites. By strategically placing four or five Gateway Centers in each county, the SRHA hopes to insure that both residents and tourists gain a greater understanding of the valuable resources of the Heritage Area.

Yuma Crossing wins tourism award

On July 9, 2009, Yuma, Arizona was named winner of the 2009 Governor's Tourism Award for Arizona Preservation due to the city's revitalization efforts in the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area. The Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area was given a plaque of recognition for the award by Gov. Jan Brewer at the Governor's Conference of Tourism.

According to the *Yuma Sun*, Ann Walker, spokeswoman for the Yuma Visitors Bureau, nominated Yuma's efforts for the award earlier this year and said she was very pleased to hear the results. "It's really gratifying to have the rest of the state recognize all the progress made in Yuma," Walker said. Walker said there were eight project nominations this year and three finalists, with Yuma being the overall winner.

Two projects were emphasized in the application - the Main Street revitalization and Gateway Park.

Charles Flynn, Executive Director of the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area, said that "to see the parks develop, the private development occurring, the fact that we're being recognized at the state level is very gratifying."



L – R: Senator Benjamin Cardin, Congressman Elijah E. Cummings, Congressman John Sarbanes, Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger and Mayor Sheila Dixon

The award was sponsored by the Arizona Office of Tourism, the Arizona Tourism Alliance, Arizona Hotels and Lodging Association and Arizona Restaurants Association. It has been presented, along with other Governor's Tourism Awards, since

1993.

Baltimore National Heritage Area unveiled!

August 24, 2009 couldn't have been a more perfect day at Broadway Square Market in Baltimore's historic Fells Point neighborhood.

Mayor Sheila Dixon was joined by Senator Ben Cardin, Representative Elijah E. Cummings, Representative C.A. "Dutch" Ruppertsberger, Representative John Sarbanes, National Park Service Associate Regional Director Maryanne Gerbauckus, and Baltimore's Heritage community to celebrate Baltimore's



L-R: Robert Goetz, Billie Holiday House, Inc Maryanne Gerbauckas, NPS Associate Regional Director Congressman Elijah E. Cummings Bob Campbell, Chesapeake Bay Coordinator Congressman John Sarbanes Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger Mayor Sheila Dixon Jeffrey Buchheit, Baltimore National Heritage Area Director Congressman Benjamin Cardin

National Heritage Area designation. Senator Mikulski was unable to attend the event because she is recovering from an ankle injury. She was, however, recognized by Mayor Dixon for her contributions ensuring Baltimore earned the Heritage Area designation.

Both Senator Cardin and Mayor Dixon acknowledged Baltimore's significant historic and cultural contributions to Maryland and the United States.

"The Baltimore National Heritage Area presents a wonderful opportunity to showcase our rich historic and cultural heritage," said Senator Cardin. "From Fort McHenry to the U.S.S. Constellation to the home of Frederick Douglass and many more sites, Baltimore is one of our nation's premier historic cities, and this federal designation will attract new visitors to our City and enable Marylanders and all Americans to honor and treasure our past."

The celebration captured all aspects of Baltimore's acclaim for the designation from the miniature schooner "the Lion" re-enactors such as, The Star Spangled Banner Flag House's Mary Pickersgill to the Maryland Zoo's Zoomobile, with live

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ambassadors on hand. Every aspect the event was indicative of Baltimore's unique heritage.

The event concluded with the unveiling of Baltimore's new Chesapeake Gateways and Watertrails Network and Water Taxi Landing signs.

The Chesapeake Gateways and Watertrails Network signs incorporate Baltimore's role in the story of Capt. John Smith's legendary route of exploration around the Chesapeake Bay between 1607 and 1609. The Water Taxi signs will serve as modern lighthouses on the water's edge and to educate residents and visitors about related attractions

As duly noted by those in attendance and stated by Congressman Elijah Cummings. "It is a great honor to be a part of this historic moment and ensure that we can safeguard the fortunes

of our heritage for generations to come."

Navigation tool steers visitors to Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor

The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor launched a new online navigation tool to bridge together the people, places and experience of the Delaware, Lehigh and Wyoming Valleys.

The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor's backbone is the D&L Trail. The trail, which travels through three distinct regions, Southern (Bucks County), Central (Lehigh & Northampton counties) and Northern (Luzerne & Carbon Counties), follows the 165-mile route that anthracite coal took from mine to market. A striking landscape rich in natural resources and outdoor recreation, the D&L Trail passes through towns and travels along remnants of the Lehigh and Delaware Canals.

Using a dynamic navigation and mapping tool, the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor has connected the three regions as a path. The online tool is specifically designed to enable users to zoom in on specific locations, learn trail status, identify regional sites and events, find points of interest and plan a visit to the region.

In addition to serving as an information hub, the website allows visitors to navigate based upon a desired path, according to region, specific town, or a recreational area of interest. The Your Trip feature, allows visitors to plan their itinerary with driving directions from a starting point, to each destination and back to the starting point.

For more information see: <http://www.delawareandlehigh.org>



Crossroads National Heritage Area receives J. Seward Johnson Trust grant

The Crossroads of the American Revolution Association announced Thursday that it has received a \$12,000 grant for operating and planning from the J. Seward Johnson, Sr. 1963 Charitable Trust, an award that will spark an additional \$12,000 in federal aid. The J. Seward Johnson, Sr. 1963 Charitable Trust provides grants to non-profit organizations in New Jersey and selectively in other parts of the nation. Support is given to programs in the fields of oceanography, substance abuse prevention, cultural enrichment, health and healthcare, water and the environment, education, law and public broadcasting.



Working in collaboration with Morristown National Historical Park and other partners, Crossroads is pursuing historic and environmental preservation, heritage education, cultural conservation, recreational heritage trails and heritage tourism. New Jersey's heritage area comprises 213 cities and towns within 14 counties from Fort Lee in Bergen County to Fort Mercer in Gloucester.

Legacy magazine highlights Freedom's Frontier National heritage Area

An article entitled "A New Approach to Telling Old Stories" written in part by Julie Lenger, program coordinator, Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area and Sue Pridemore, regional heritage partnerships coordinator, National Park Service, appears as a feature in the August issue of the National Association for Interpreters magazine, *Legacy*.

The article focuses on how to adapt storytelling and interpretation for the 21st century audience. "In this new and changing marketplace for traditional storytelling, think about partnering with non-traditional partners. Advertising firms, universities, community theaters, and local family-owned businesses might provide the opportunity to enhance your story, your perspectives, your stakeholder population, and your story's future."

To read the article in its entirety visit <http://onlinelegacy.org/2009/08/a-new-approach-to-telling-old-stories/>

PUBLICATIONS/RESOURCES

University of Illinois Chicago offers online course in strategic management for nonprofit organizations

This course examines ways to determine whether an organization is living out its mission, how to make the best use of scarce resources in service to that mission, whether programmatic objectives are stepping stones toward a well-crafted vision and whether the organization's resources are aligned with its mission and vision. See <http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci/programs/profed/online/index.htm> for more information.

Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling at Concordia University in Montreal introduces *Stories Matter* software program



After nearly a year of interdisciplinary collaboration among affiliates of the Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling at Concordia University in Montreal, the first phase of *Stories Matter* is complete. *Stories Matter* is free, open source software that is compatible with Macintosh and PC operating systems. It allows for the archiving of digital video and audio materi-

als, enabling users to annotate, analyze, evaluate and export oral history materials, as well as tag, index, search, and browse within interviews, sessions, and clips or across entire collections. Visit the new *Stories Matter* website at <http://www.stories-matter.com> where you can download the software and begin to use it to build a database or series of databases from an oral history collection.

Goucher College announces new cultural sustainability program

Goucher College in Baltimore, Maryland has begun accepting applicants to its new Master of Arts in Cultural Sustainability program. The program -- the only one of its kind in the country -- brings together tools from anthropology, history, communications, business and management, linguistics, and activism, and it teaches students how to sustain cultural traditions in an era of increasing homogeneity and globalization. For more information visit <http://www.goucher.edu>

ASSISTANCE/AWARDS

NEH Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections Grant available

The Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections grant helps cultural institutions meet the complex challenge of preserving large and diverse holdings of humanities materials for future generations by supporting preventive conservation measures that mitigate deterioration and prolong the useful life of collections. Libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations across the country are responsible for collections of books and manuscripts, photographs, sound recordings and moving images, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, art, and historical objects that facilitate research, strengthen teaching, and provide opportunities for life-long learning in the humanities. Applications are due by December 8, 2009. <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/SCHC.html>

IMLS Calls for 2010 Museums for America Grant Applications



The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is accepting applications to its largest museum grant program, Museums for America (MFA), for fiscal year 2010. Museums for America grants provide up to \$150,000 in funding and support projects that strengthen a museum's capacity to serve its community. Deadline: November 2, 2009

Read more: <http://www.imls.gov/news/2009/082609.shtm>



New National Parks Index: 2009-2011 is now available online

The new National Parks: Index 2009-2011 is now available online as well as in print. Download the searchable PDF version to your desktop and you'll have a very handy reference. The file is on the large side (8.23 MB) and will take a while to load, but it's worth the wait. There is also an HTM version of the index, and you can always buy a printed copy if you prefer.

This publication consists of 131 pages presenting a comprehensive administrative listing of the National Park System's parks, affiliated areas, national heritage areas, wild & scenic rivers, and national trails. The entries are grouped by state. Each entry includes administrative addresses and phone numbers, dates of authorization and establishment, boundary change dates, acreages. Accompanying each entry is a very brief statement – just a sentence or two -- explaining the areas' national significance.

There is a handy alphabetical listing at the rear that identifies the host state and provides the index page number as well as the full name of the national park or other administrative unit.

A highly useful attribute of the PDF version of the index is the ease with which you can conduct both scroll-through and keyword searches. To perform the latter, just type keyword(s) into the "Find" box at the upper right, then select the kind of search you'd like to do -- either Find Next in Current PDF or open Full Reader Search. If you like, you can restrict to whole words only and specify case-sensitive.

The index was completed March 30, 2009, and does not include the 9 NHA's designated in the Omnibus Public Lands Bill of 2009.

Alliance of National Heritage Areas/National Park Service National Heritage Areas Program

The Alliance Update is a partnership project of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas and the National Park Service National Heritage Areas Program.

Send your heritage area events and news to the editor by the 25th of the month for inclusion in the following month's bulletin. Please forward this bulletin to others who may be interested, and encourage them to join our e-bulletin address list.

- Reach the editor at Danielle_Feuillan@contractor.nps.gov
- To subscribe or unsubscribe, send an email to the editor.



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Featured

Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area

The Journey Through
**Hallowed
Ground**
Gettysburg to Monticello
Ambassador

Whether it's being honored by historic preservation groups, creating groundbreaking service-learning programs for kids, publishing books about the lesser-known people who shaped this

nation, or developing hospitality training programs to increase tourism in the region, the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership has been pretty busy since its inception in 2006 and its national heritage area designation in May 2008.

The Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership, a non-profit corporation consisting of 350 public and private partners spanning from Gettysburg, PA through three counties in Maryland, Harpers Ferry in West Virginia and 10 counties in Vir-

ginia has created and executed a business plan which included creating the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage, which was signed into law on May 8, 2008.

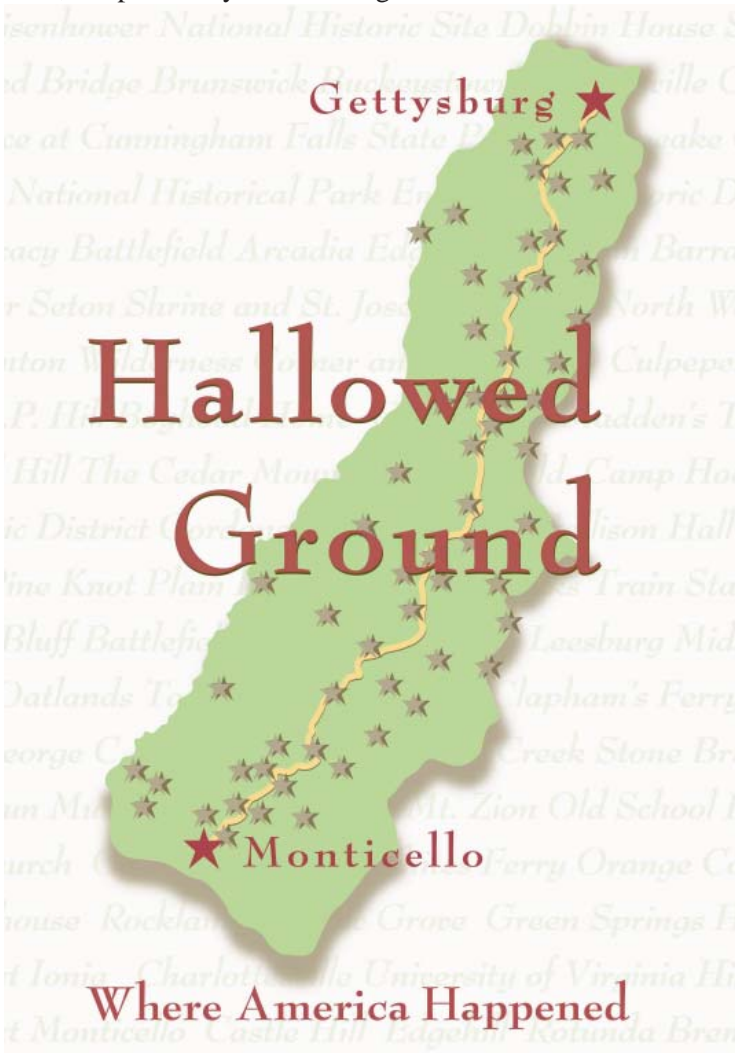
With nine Presidential homes, 13 National Park units, the largest collection of Civil War sites in the country, 17 historic Main Street Communities, 73 National Historic Districts, sites from the French and Indian War, the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, along with hundreds of African American and Native American sites, the JTHG Partnership raises national awareness of the special stories of the men and women who chose to put their lives and livelihoods on the line, generation after generation, in the name of creating this nation and sustaining its democracy.

With financial support so far only from individuals, businesses, and NGO and local government donations, this young partnership has been able to sustain the difficult economic times, and in the process, create award-winning programs.

In August for example, just a few months after putting the finishing touches on a groundbreaking service-learning program, it received national recognition from an independent federal agency that advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, presented the JTHG Partnership with the "Partnership Commendation Award for Federal Preserve America Accomplishment" for its role in creating, developing, and sponsoring the aptly named Of the Student, By the Student, For the Student™ program, where 70 middle-school students created six mini-movies from start to finish, offering their interpretation of the famous John Brown Raid to help students from around the globe connect to that history.

The students' Vodcasts are now included as part of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park's official interpretation of the historical events and can be downloaded online by visitors and students of all ages. (They are available on the National Park Service Site, YouTube, and at the www.HallowedGround.org). The program also serves as a model for the JTHG Partnership, which is planning to create similar service learning programs for each of the other 13 national parks within the JTHG National Heritage Area.

In another effort this past July, the JTHG Partnership unveiled its fifth book, *Honoring Their Paths: African American Contributions Along the Journey Through Hallowed Ground*. This work is the result of several years of research by nationally acclaimed historians and shines a light on the realities of slave life, freemen, nationally acclaimed artists and civil rights leaders, revealing three hundred years of untold contributions to our American heritage and helping reveal another important



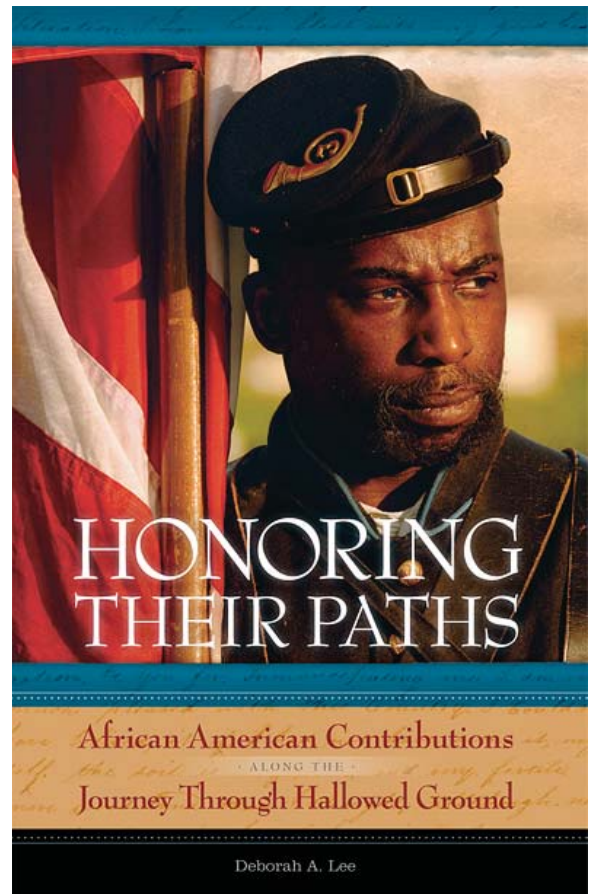
chapter of this region's vital history.

Robert K. Sutton, PhD, Chief Historian for the National Park Service describe the project this way: "After three years of extensive research, this remarkable book brings to the public a rich and complex component of our American narrative by looking beyond the bricks and mortar of historic sites to the people who—through courage, creativity and conviction—helped shape our nation."

But the JTHG Partnership isn't just about the past, it's also looking forward and now poised to launch another innovative program. This Fall it will launch a certified hospitality training program that will transform some 4,000 front-line professionals into Certified Travel Ambassadors for the JTHG National Heritage Area.

With the Sesquicentennial Commemoration of the Civil War at its door steps, the JTHG Partnership's goal is to turn every visitor encounter with a frontline hospitality staff person into a consistently positive experience, making each moment more special, and offering each visitor ample reason to stay longer, spend more, visit other locations within the national heritage area, and share their good experiences with other potential visitors – all leading to increased visitation.

The JTHG Partnership is involved in a variety of projects aimed at educating students of all ages to share in the region's important heritage, cultural attractions and natural beauty. For more information about it and to see the Of the Student, By the Student, For the Student videos go to HallowedGround.org or contact Communications Director John K. Jones at John@JTHG.org



The JTHG Partnership unveiled its fifth book, **Honoring Their Paths: African American Contributions Along the Journey Through Hallowed Ground.**



The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation presented the JTHG Partnership with the "Partnership Commendation Award for Federal Preserve America Accomplishment." (L - R: Will Shafroth, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Game and Parks; Robert G. Stanton, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget for the Department of the Interior and Director for the newly created Office of Youth, and former director of the National Park Service; Angela Stokes, Director of Education for the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership; Beth Erickson, Vice President for the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership; Cate Magennis Wyatt, President for the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership; and John Nau III, Chairman of the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation.