PA MUSEUMS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

March 26 - 28, 2017
Erie, PA

Challenges & Change

PRESENTED BY:

pamuseums.org

Hosted by the Erie Art Museum
The Erie Art Museum is proud to host

PA Museums’ 2017 Annual Statewide Museum Conference.

The Erie Art Museum is a community-based organization offering a wide range of public programs, including exhibitions, studio art classes, performing arts, professional development for artists and teachers, an annual Blues & Jazz Festival, and specialized programs for kids, adults, and families. The Museum is housed in a group of outstanding historic buildings dating from the 1830s to 1860, tied together by a 2010 LEED Gold-certified facility that provides a visitor-friendly entrance with a gift shop, café and gathering space. The Museum’s collections span a range of historical periods and cultures, with strengths in American ceramics, contemporary baskets, East African commercial textiles, American photographs, Japanese prints and photographs, American and European paintings, drawings, prints, and sculpture, and the art of Greater India, especially bronze and stone sculptures and Tibetan paintings. In 2015 the Museum was awarded the Sustainability Excellence Award in Programming by the American Alliance of Museums. In 2011 the Museum received the National Medal for Museum Service, the nation’s highest honor for museums.

erieartmuseum.org
The lobby will feature exhibitors representing the diverse needs of the museum community. We hope you will take the opportunity to visit with them during the numerous breaks. We thank them for their support.

Silent auction items benefiting PA Museums will be available for browsing and bidding in the lobby. The silent auction concludes Tuesday at 3 PM. Please stop at the registration desk on Tuesday between 3 and 4 PM to see if you have a winning bid. Winners need not be present. Arrangements can be made to pick up your item(s). We can also mail your winning item(s), charging only for actual shipping costs. Thank you for your support!
Building Teams • Managing Projects • Fabricating Exhibits

Bringing innovative experience and fabrication solutions to museums, hospitals, zoos and more throughout Pennsylvania.

Middle Creek Visitor Center
Children’s Hospital Eastern State Penitentiary
Longwood Gardens
Franklin Water Works
Please Touch Museum
Philadelphia Zoo
University of Pennsylvania Academy of Natural Sciences
American Helicopter Museum & Education Center

COMING SOON:
Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania
John James Audubon Center

(610) 461-0300 • www.BuildwithUSA.com
Sunday, March 26, 2017
2-3 PM
Penn Shore Winery Tour and Tasting

GPS address:
Penn Shore Winery and Vineyards
10225 East Lake Road
North East, PA 16428
814-725-8688
free onsite parking

Penn Shore Vineyards obtained one of the first two limited winery licenses issued by the state of Pennsylvania in 1968 and began crushing grapes in September 1969. They first opened the doors to the winery in April of 1970. Penn Shore has many firsts to its credits including offering the very first Pennsylvania Champagne in 1970.

This tour through the current cooperage area brings you face to face with tall, mammoth stainless steel storage tanks, a barrel room, champagne cellar, a modern bottling area, and large warehousing facilities. There is a retail and museum area as well as a spacious tasting bar. In addition there is a lovely outdoor patio in the midst of vast vineyards.

For more information, visit http://pennshore.com/

Travel time from Penn Shore Winery to South Shore Winery is 4 minutes.

3:30-4:30 PM
South Shore Wine Company Tour and Tasting

GPS address:
South Shore Wine Company
1120 Freeport Rd. (Rt. 89)
North East, PA 16428
814-725-1585
Free onsite parking

The South Shore Wine Company, originally established by William Griffith and Smith S. Hammond in 1864, was the first commercial winery in Erie County. The original stone wine cavern, built in the 1860s and fashioned after French wine caverns, is one of very few of its kind in the United States. After Griffith’s untimely death, the winery continued operation under various owners and winemakers for many years until the Prohibition halted production in the 1920s. The South Shore Wine Company was one of the longest running wineries in Pennsylvania.

It was purchased in 2007 by Robert Mazza of Mazza Vineyards in hopes of preserving the unique history of the location. The stone wine cavern was restored and opened to the public as a tasting room and wine cellar, and the South Shore Wine Company name was re-established.

### A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

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In the wine cellar, you will be able to taste a new and unique selection of wines while taking in the grandeur and silent history hidden within the original stone walls. You can almost hear the echoes of past winemakers as they prepared their samples for the 1867 Paris World’s Fair.

For more information, please visit http://enjoymazza.com/south-shore-wine-company

Travel time from the South Shore Wine Company to The Erie Maritime Museum is 25 minutes.

5:30-6:30 PM  
Welcome Reception at The Erie Maritime Museum

GPS address:
Erie Maritime Museum/Home Port U.S. Brig Niagara  
150 East Front Street  
Erie, PA 16507  
814.452.2744  
Free onsite parking

Enter the world of Lake Erie. Learn its history. Find out about fishing. From the War of 1812 through present day, the Erie Maritime Museum will take you through the people and the events surrounding Lake Erie. When in homeport, the ship herself is the premier “exhibit”. Berthed within yards of the museum, the U.S. Brig Niagara is visible from the museum’s bayside picture window.

Inside, the centerpiece exhibits of the museum range from a former steam-powered electricity generating station and a reconstruction of the mid-ship section of the Lawrence to a separate section of the Lawrence replica that has been blasted with live ammunition from the current Niagara’s own carronades. Refreshments will be available.

Guided tours will be available.

The Gift Shop will be open and the Flagship Niagara League will extend their members’ discount of 15% to attendees.

For more information, please visit http://www.flagshipniagara.org/

6:30 PM  
Dinner on Your Own

Monday, March 27, 2017  
Monday and Tuesday’s conference sessions and Monday’s achievement awards will be held at the Erie Art Museum. We also invite you to visit with our sponsors in the Museum Marketplace. We thank our host for their hospitality. The Erie Art Museum has a collection of over 8,000 objects, including American ceramics, Tibetan paintings, Indian bronzes, contemporary baskets, and many other mediums. The museum hosts 18 to 20 visiting exhibitions annually and shares parts of its collection with national and international partners through traveling exhibits.

Erie Art Museum  
GPS address  
10 East 5th Street  
Erie, PA 16501  
814-459-6477

Parking:  
Meter parking is available on all blocks surrounding the museum, in a lot on 3rd and State Streets, and in parking garages on 3rd between State and French Streets and on 10th and French streets. The blocks are not large, so even the lot on 10th and French is only a few minute walk to the museum.
Franklin Vagnone (Principal – TWISTED PRESERVATION: Cultural Consulting. New York City, and President/CEO of Old Salem Inc. Winston-Salem, NC) with a strong background in the creative arts (Architecture, Design, Sculpture), is a Public Historian who has been labeled a “domestic-archeo-anthropologist”, has over 25 years of transformational leadership in non-profit management, financial oversight, fundraising, strategic planning, board relationships, award-winning cultural program & creative place-making development.

Seen as an international thought leader in innovative and entrepreneurial non-profit management. He has a thoughtful combination of philosophical and practical experience that have allowed him to consult, lecture, and teach internationally for an extensive list of national, state, local agencies, as well as universities, cultural sites, museums, and community-based membership organizations.

Franklin leads the highly respected cultural consulting firm: Twisted Preservation, and facilitates the series “One Night Stand” overnights in historic house museums, and “Water Cooler Chats”, which to date, has readers in over 85 countries - (www.twistedpreservation.wordpress.com), and also moderates an international discussion group – The Anarchist’s Guide to Historic House Museums.

Frank is author of numerous articles as well as co-authored The Anarchist’s Guide to Historic House Museums (with Ms. Deborah Ryan) – a book about innovative concepts for historic cultural sites and the focus of today’s keynote. The book, now in its 3rd printing since November 2015, was voted best Museum Education-related book of 2015 by Museum Educator’s Monitor, and became the #1 bestseller (Museum-related) on Amazon for February 2016.

While Executive Director of major historic house organizations in Philadelphia (The Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks) and New York City (Historic House Trust of New York City), his leadership has been recognized through, two Lucy G. Moses awards from the New York Landmarks Conservancy, Award of Excellence from the Greater Hudson Heritage Network, Award of Merit from Museum Association of New York Award, and a Grand Jury Medal from The Philadelphia Preservation Alliance.

In recognition of his sustained work in the museum profession, Franklin was selected for the 2015 Museum Association of New York State’s prestigious Individual Achievement Award.

Using the Erie Art Museum as a concrete example, this session will examine what it means to go green: Green certification processes, especially LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design, the U.S. Green Building Council’s certification program that recognizes best-in-class building strategies and practices); green operating policies; using the green museum as an educational opportunity; and specific examples of ways that greening the museum can reduce operating expenses, create greater visitor comfort and improve employee working conditions.

The session will include an introduction to green museums and a tour of the green features of the Erie Art Museum’s 2010 LEED Gold building.
Presenters:
Brian Smith, Energy Efficiency Outreach Representative for Sodexo Quality of Life Services, which administers the Pennsylvania energy efficiency rebate program (which can offer immediate savings to PA Museums by underwriting much of the cost of converting to energy efficient lighting)

John Vanco, Director, Erie Art Museum

10:30-11:15 AM
Going Viral: A View from Other Side
Conference Room, Third Floor

You may have seen the viral video of a museum visitor damaging a clock at the National Watch & Clock Museum in 2016. That video, posted as a polite warning to other guests, eventually garnered over 5 million views across multiple media platforms. How did it happen? What were the impacts of this video? What should you prepare for in the event that your museum’s video goes viral?

Presenters:
Kim Jovinelli, Curator of Collections, National Watch & Clock Museum
Noel Poirier, Museum Director, National Watch & Clock Museum

11:15-11:30 AM
Break

11:30 AM-12:15 PM
Courting Uncle Sam: A Case Study of Challenges and Strategies in Funding The Ignite Initiative through IMLS
Special Events Room, First Floor

Find out how a rural museum with a staff of four, a shoestring budget, and a passion for science employed a blended grant writing approach developing a grant application ole Sam couldn’t refuse. The Children’s Museum of Bloomsburg will share the challenges, strategies, and successes in applying for and executing a multi-prong project powered by a federal grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Participants will have an opportunity for a mini “museum camp” activity to experiment with practical ideas for their own institutions.

Presenters:
Shawna Meiser, Director, The Children’s Museum
Ginny Weibel, Ph.D., Education Coordinator, The Children’s Museum

11:30 AM-12:15 PM
Deaccessioning and the Ethical Use of Deaccession Funds
Conference Room, Third Floor

How does your museum spend deaccession funds? Since 1993 the American Alliance of Museums’ Code of Ethics has required that proceeds from the sale of non-living collections be spent on acquisitions or “direct care of collections.” Panelists will discuss AAM’s 2016 White Paper Direct Care of Collections: Ethics, Guidelines and Recommendations which provides a matrix and recommendations to help museums of various disciplines define “direct care of collections.” Participants are encouraged to bring their questions and concerns regarding deaccessioning and the ethical use of deaccession proceeds to the discussion.

Presenters:
Ellen Endslow, Director of Collections/Curator, Chester County Historical Society and former Chair, AAM’s Curators Committee
Susan E. Hanna, Regional Curator, Bureau of Historic Sites and Museums, PHMC
Stacey Swigart, Curator of Collections, Please Touch Museum and member, AAM Direct Care Task Force

12:15-12:30 PM
Break

12:30-2:30
Awards Program and Lunch (see page 11)
Special Events Room, First Floor

2:30-2:45 PM
Break

2:45-3:30 PM
Death, Taxes and Chief Executive Transition
Special Events Room, First Floor

Executive transition is inevitable, whether planned
or due to an emergency. If an organization is not prepared there is high risk for negative impact including to programming, fundraising and relationships. If prepared, this can be a time of organizational strengthening. This session will review best practices to manage the risk; the trends and dynamics behind leadership transition today; how the chief executive position is changing; and what your organization can do to prepare to attract the best candidates and allow them to hit the ground running. Succession planning, whether to use an interim executive director, and the role of the board of directors and the outgoing executive will also be addressed.

_presenters:
caroline e. boyce, cae, president & ceo, inter-mission, llc

_todd owens, co-founder and principal, nonprofit talent

_stephen j. porter, esq., president, erie art museum
board of directors

2:45-3:30 pm
considerations for creating sensory-friendly programming for teens and adults
conference room, third floor

this session will review the andy warhol museum’s recent sensory-friendly programs designed specifically for teens and young adults 14 to 21 years old as well as adults 21+ with autism spectrum disorders and/or those with sensory sensitivities. learn how participants explored andy warhol’s artwork through gallery discussions, activities, and art making in a welcoming and supportive environment.

_presenters:
leah morelli, accessibility coordinator, carnegie museums of pittsburgh

lucianna randall, executive director, autism connection of pennsylvania

chrisoula randas perdziola, programming specialist, pa museums

the erie art museum is a three minute drive and a 13 minute walk to the erie county historical society.

4-5 pm
tour of the erie county historical society
erie county historical society
356 west sixth street
erie, pa 16507
814-454-1813

come tour the watson-curtze mansion, which houses the regional history museum, located on the second & third floors, while the first floor interprets victorian furniture & decor.

the watson-curtze mansion and carriage house were designed by the buffalo architectural firm of green & wicks and built in 1891. designed in the iconic dichardsonian romanesque style, the mansion features intricate wood carvings, multiple stained glass windows, oak flooring, 12 fireplaces, and a ballroom. the mansion is listed on the national historic register.

erie roofing paper magnet, harrison watson, built the home in 1891. harrison and his wife carrie tracey, along with their daughter winifred lived in the home until 1923. frederic felix curtze purchased the home and lived at the property until 1941 when it officially became a museum.

5 pm
dinner on your own
Download the “Hello Erie” app by Visit Erie for the inside scoop on local Erie restaurants.

**Tuesday, March 28**

Erie Art Museum  
GPS address  
10 East 5th Street  
Erie, PA 16501  
814-459-6477

Parking:  
Meter parking is available on all blocks surrounding the museum, in a lot on 3rd and State Streets, and in parking garages on 3rd between State and French Streets and on 10th and French streets. The blocks are not large, so even the lot on 10th and French is only a few minute walk to the museum.

8:30 AM-3:30 PM  
Museum Marketplace

8:30-9:30 AM  
Registration and Light Refreshments

9:30-10:15 AM  
Plenary Session  
Old Songs New Opportunities  
Special Events Room, First Floor

Old Songs New Opportunities (OSNO) is a program of the Erie Art Museum that trains refugee women to work in childcares and to use their traditional songs on the job. It has also trained hundreds of American teachers about using song in traditional ways to motivate, cheer, and comfort young children and to raise awareness of PA’s changing multicultural landscape. Hear delightful songs sung in Arabic, Swahili, Nepali and in English and meet graduates of the program. Learn how it has impacted their lives and benefitted the Museum and the greater community.

Presenters:  
Kelly Armor, Folk Art & Education Director, Erie Art Museum  
Ally Thomas, Education Coordinator, Erie Art Museum

Performers:  
Nibal Ab El Karim, from Palestine, is an OSNO song coach  
Samia Almashni, from Jordan, has degrees in cosmetology and business. She has been an OSNO song coach to dozens of American teachers.

Mensura Berberovic has been honored by the PCA for her extensive knowledge of Bosnian ballads. She was a PHC Commonwealth Speaker and an OSNO song coach.

Amrita Magar, from Bhutan, sings in Nepali (her native language), Swahili and Arabic with suburban children at a childcare outside of Erie, where she works.

Marta Sam is a drummer, dancer, and singer from South Sudan. She regularly shares her African culture at an early childhood center where she has worked for over 12 years.

10:15-10:30 AM  
Break

10:30-11:15 AM  
The Rise of Management Commons: A New Model for Resource Sharing  
Special Events Room, First Floor

Since 2010, CultureWorks Greater Philadelphia (cultureworksphila.org/culturetrustphila.org) has pioneered the development of the first nonprofit management commons built expressly for the arts and heritage community. As a commons manager, they build and share all of the essential resources that a cultural project or organization needs behind the curtain to support its work: finance, human resource management, legal, compliance, insurances, fundraising,
kinds, archives, historic sites), as well as individual practitioners working on a project or initiative basis. All support resources are flexible and affordable, and designed to be easily sustained, making it a more practical alternative for mergers, partnerships, and other efficiencies at the center of funding and practice conversations today. This presentation and conversation will engage participants in a mutual discovery of how this new shared services model of management commons may be adapted to the needs of the heritage and museum community.

**Presenters:**  
Thaddeus Squire, Managing Director

**10:30-11:15 AM**  
**Tour of Erie Art Museum**  
Join us for a brisk tour that will share highlights of the Museum’s history, architecture, exhibits and programming. We’ll even give everyone a taste of local chocolate.

**11:15-11:30 AM**  
**Break**

**11:30 AM-12:15 PM**  
**Taking the Museum Outdoors**  
*Special Events Room, First Floor*

Taking the museum outdoors can be a welcome challenge. In 2016 the Jefferson County Historical Society created a park in an undeveloped woodland setting in order to make accessible the unique story of Douglas Stahlman and his 100 year old legacy of meticulously carved words, passages and symbols on rocks ranging in size from a washtub to a house. This session will discuss the pitfalls and successes of developing a park in a remote setting and present a creative avenue of interpreting and teaching local history.

The experience Children’s Museum in Erie PA is home to Discovery Corner, a recently recognized certified Outdoor Classroom. Discovery Corner is one of 14 nationally certified outdoor classrooms in the State. This session will discuss the transformation process of how the experience Children’s Museum took an unused “ugly” space and created a nationally recognized classroom for families to enjoy.

The Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park, or LEAF as it is known, is a tree museum situated in a public park in Erie PA. This session will discuss how a dedicated group of volunteers working with the City of Erie and other supporters transformed a poorly maintained and under-utilized park in an urban setting into a hub for family friendly educational and recreational activities.

**Presenters:**  
Ainslie Brosig, Executive Director, expERIEence Children’s Museum  
Kenneth Burkett, Executive Director, Jefferson County History Center  
Char Mashyna, Executive Director of the Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park

**11:30 AM-12:15 PM**  
**The W’s of Museum Making, with an H Thrown In**  
*Conference Room, Third Floor*

The Goodridge Freedom Center and Underground Railroad Museum has been a long process of planning, re-planning, starting, stopping, natural disasters, research, and partnerships. Learn about the amazing life of William C Goodridge and the work he did to provide freedom to strangers as well as the precarious process involved in starting a museum to honor him.

What happens when you are given a property for a museum?  
Why is it important?  
Where to start?  
When does all this happen?  
How do you tell the story?  
Who will visit it, appreciate it, sustain it?
12:15-2:15 PM
Lunch on Your Own

The Wave Cafe, located in the lobby of the Erie Art Museum, offers a variety of fresh soups, salads, along with combination sandwiches and paninis. Much is grab and go, with an emphasis on vegetarian options as well. Pre-ordering is available, along with specialty coffees and juices. The Wave is open from 10 am - 2 pm.

Download the “Hello Erie” app by Visit Erie for the inside scoop on additional local Erie restaurants.

2:15-3 PM
Kids as Curators
Special Events Room, First Floor

In 2005, the Erie Art Museum started an experimental program to have middle school students create exhibits using their own collections. Kids as Curators blossomed into the Museum’s largest educational program. Using kids’ inherent interest in collecting gets them to consider museums as interesting and teaches about exhibition design and partnering with local schools. Learn how smaller museums can capitalize on their ability to be flexible, local, and personal while also addressing the curricular needs of math, science, history, and language arts teachers.

Presenters:
Kelly Armor, Education Director, Erie Art Museum
Ally Thomas, Museum Education Coordinator, Erie Art Museum

How Failing to Invest in Your Online Presence is Losing Your Organization Money
Conference Room, Third Floor

Prior to 2016, the Crawford County Historical Society had a minimal Internet presence that was limited to an out-of-date website with no social media channels and no means for generating online revenue. The society recognized a need to change. Within 6 months of investing time and resources into a clear digital marketing strategy, the society witnessed a 68% increase in memberships, 34% increase in research requests, 25% increase in ticket sales, and 20% increase in non-member visits to the society—all of which directly translated into additional revenue versus the prior year. They were also reaching new audiences of all ages, both in and outside the area. The tenets of the society’s online marketing strategy, the tools and tactics used to implement the strategy, and how others can see similar success will be shared.

Presenters:
Joshua Sherretts, Board President, Crawford County Historical Society and Executive Director of the Baldwin-Reynolds House Museum and Supreme Court Historic Site
Ron Mattocks, Board Member, Crawford County Historical Society and Vice President of Digital Strategy Development at Sells Group in Indianapolis, Indiana

3-3:15 PM
Break

3:15-4 PM
Annual Membership Meeting
Special Events Room, First Floor

All are welcome. Please join us.
Each year PA Museums invites nominations for our Special Achievement Awards. Our awards program has recognized excellence and exemplary work in Pennsylvania’s museums for over thirty years.

Congratulations to the following:

**Institutional Awards**

**Cumberland County Historical Society**
*The Elizabeth V. and George F. Gardner Digital Library*
*Cumberland County Historical Society*
*Carlisle, PA*

The Elizabeth V. and George F. Gardner Digital Library emerged from a vision of sharing the history and collected stories of Cumberland County through technology; fulfilling the Historical Society’s goal of capturing these stories to engage new generations locally and around the world. The project recounts the County’s history through an online encyclopedia with short articles on historical topics that range from broad histories of townships, boroughs and businesses, to more personal news stories about individuals such as freed slaves and other community members who tell their own life histories.

**Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site**
*Prisons Today: Questions in the Age of Mass Incarceration*
*Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site*
*Philadelphia, PA*

The first major museum exhibition on the topic of contemporary corrections, Prisons Today explores the policies that drive the American criminal justice system, the communities impacted by prisons, the consequences of a criminal conviction, and new visions of reform put forth by organizations and individuals. Through a variety of interactive components, this project raises visitor awareness of institutions that are often out of sight and out of mind, humanizes mass incarceration to encourage empathy for those impacted by it, and prods reflection on the fairness and effectiveness of U.S. criminal justice policy.

**Jefferson County History Center**
*Scripture Rocks Heritage Park*
*Jefferson County History Center*
*Brookville, PA*

A monumental achievement, Scripture Rocks Heritage Park is the culmination of a seven-year effort of the Jefferson County History Center to preserve and educate visitors on the legacy of Douglas Stahlman and his historic rock art. Covering 4.6 acres with 1.4 miles of hiking trails to the 67 huge engraved rocks that make up the largest known historic rock location in the United States, the project features an entrance kiosk, 20 interpretive panels and a trail guide booklet detailing aspects of the artist’s life as well as local history, timber conservation, geology and rock formation, wildlife, and a Native American archaeological and excavation site found within the park.

**Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum**
*Weathervanes: Three Centuries of a Pennsylvania Folk Art Tradition*
*Landis Valley Village & Farm Museum*
*Lancaster, PA*

This exhibition at the Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum, a Pennsylvania state historic site administered by the PHMC and supported by the nonprofit Landis Valley Associates, was the first comprehensive treatment of Pennsylvania-made and used weathervanes ever done. The project brought together the earliest known and most iconic Pennsylvania weathervanes, including the 1699 William Penn/Samuel Carpenter/Caleb Pusey hand-forged weathervane, and many other remarkable examples of folk art and serendipitous creativity with 360-degree viewing. More than 40 prime examples of Pennsylvania-related weathervanes were displayed and the companion catalogue featured full-color representations of each exhibited object.

**National Watch & Clock Museum**
*The Virtual Museum: Bringing the Museum to You*
*National Watch & Clock Museum*
*Columbia, PA*

Like many museums tasked with minimizing expenses, the National Watch & Clock Museum aimed to fulfill their educational mission without expanding the budget. In 2008, the museum made the conscious decision to shift marketing efforts from traditional methods of advertising to the Internet and growing social media environment in order to reach a larger audience in affordable, direct and more meaningful ways. Through a website that acts as a virtual brochure and branded social media platforms, including Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and Pinterest, the museum has enjoyed robust remote and onsite visitation while reducing costs.
This unique project involved the rescue and restoration of a vintage 1908 wooden interurban trolley station over a two and one-half year period. Described by the press as “the building with nine lives,” the structure was a freight/passenger trolley station for 23 years, and then was moved and adaptively reused for other purposes for another 83 years. Following a 40-mile move from a location north of Pittsburgh to its new home at the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum, the station was beautifully restored as an interpretive exhibition space and place for educational talks, workshops, and special programs for children and adults.

**Honorable Mention**

**Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts**  
Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts  
Philadelphia, PA

The Pennsylvania Cultural Resilience Network (PaCRN) offers an innovative, holistic approach to statewide emergency preparedness for cultural institutions that serves as a national model for other states and organizations. A two-year initiative involving multiple partners led by the Conservation Center, this project has created a strong network and provided resources for effective emergency response and recovery for Pennsylvania’s cultural institutions through training, relationship-building and Commonwealth-wide policy development.

**Individual Achievement Awards**

**Kenneth Burkett**  
Executive Director  
Jefferson County History Center

The Individual Achievement Award recognizes Ken’s outstanding leadership in the planning and development of the Jefferson County History Center’s first outdoor museum, Scripture Rocks Heritage Park, which he undertook while simultaneously managing the History Center’s events, exhibitions and operations. Ken recruited and motivated a core group of volunteers and partner organizations, secured grants and cash in-kind donations, conceptualized displays, developed educational programs, and designed marketing and interpretive materials for an exceptional community project that has enhanced public history scholarship and cultural tourism in Pennsylvania.

**J. Steven Humphrey**  
Executive Director  
National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

Steve Humphrey joined the National Canal Museum – Hugh Moore Park in Easton as its director after graduating from Penn State. After almost 30 years there and a short stint outside the museum field, he became the Executive Director of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors where he has served since 2007. Most of our members and regular conference attendees know Steve from his leadership as a board member and officer of PA Museums (and before that, the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations).

PA Museums isn’t the only beneficiary of Steve’s professional activities and active volunteer spirit. He has served on the executive committee of the Pennsylvania Coalition of Independent Museums, the board of the Northampton Co. Historical Society, with the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Pennsylvania Canal Society, the Lehigh Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau, and been active on church boards as well. He has been a MAP Surveyor with the American Alliance of Museums and on grants review panels.

Steve’s work on the PA Museums board has spanned many years, and Steve’s leadership as treasurer ensured that PA Museums would have investments and be prepared for a rainy day. He has been the President, Vice President, and Treasurer. And he has chaired our Membership Committee. His advocacy work with PA Museums and the PA Coalition of Museums has helped keep museum grants in the state budget and kept pressure on the legislature to address the needs and issues of the larger museum community. Steve will step down from our Board at the end of this year’s annual meeting after having served on and off for about 15 years. We are grateful for Steve’s skills, expertise, and how generous he has been with his time working with PA Museums. Congratulations, Steve!

**John Vanco**  
Director  
Erie Art Museum

John Vanco has served as Director of the Erie Art Museum for 49 years. The Erie Art Museum hired John in 1968 when
and its audience was a few hundred annual visitors. Today the Erie Art Museum’s collection of 8,000 plus works of art are part of an award winning complex that welcomes 65,000 visitors a year, offers a wide range of public programs, and anchors a thriving arts community.

When we think about museums and non profits and the arts, again and again we hear the term “other duties as assigned.” John has led staff and coordinated the work of volunteers and board members, participated in local, statewide, and national advocacy work, fund raised, friend raised, curated exhibitions, developed an art museum’s collection and audience, installed thousands of works of art, and all of the normal things a director does. If those things are normal. His “other duties as assigned” would leave many of us with our jaws on the floor.

John Vanco has announced his plans to step down as director of the Erie Art Museum this summer, and PA Museums would like to recognize John for his long and fruitful service leading this institution. Thank you and congratulations, John!

### S.K. Stevens Award

This special award is given to institutions and projects that previously won awards from both PA Museums and the American Association for State and Local History.

**Pennsylvania Lumber Museum**  
**Visitor Center Expansion and Core Exhibit**  
**Pennsylvania Lumber Museum**  
**Ulysses, PA**

The Pennsylvania Lumber Museum is being presented with the S.K. Stevens Award in recognition of its Visitor Center Expansion and Core Exhibit, Challenges and Choices in Pennsylvania’s Forests, receiving both the PA Museums Institutional Award of Merit and an American Association for State and Local History Leadership in History Award in 2016. Much larger than the previous facility, the visitor center has significantly improved visitor services, and features community meeting space, a changing exhibit gallery and the award-winning core exhibit. Museum visitation has nearly doubled since the building and exhibit opened. Located in Potter County, the museum is administered by the PHMC, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum Associates.

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Asbury Woods Nature Center
www.asburywoods.org

Corry Area Historical Society
www.corryareahistoricalsociety.org

Edinboro Area Historical Society
www.edinborohistory.org

Elk Creek Township Historical Society
www.facebook.com/LittleChurch/

Erie Art Museum
www.erieartmuseum.org

Erie Cemetery
www.eriecemeteryassoc.com

Erie County Historical Society
www.eriehistory.com

Erie Maritime Museum/U.S. Brig Niagara
www.flagshipniagara.org

Erie Society for Genealogical Research
www.erie-pa-roots.com

Erie Zoological Society
www.eriezoo.org

expERIence Children’s Museum
www.eriechildrensmuseum.org

Fairview Area Historical Society
www.fairviewhistoryeriecountypa.org

Firefighters Historical Museum
www.firefightershistoricalmuseum.com

Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society
www.fortleboeufhistory.com

Goodell Gardens and Homestead
www.goodellgardens.org

Grape Discovery Center
www.grapediscoverycenter.com

Harborcreek Historical Society
www.harborcreekhistory.org

Heritage Room, Raymond M. Blasco, M.D. Memorial Library
www.erielibrary.org

Hornby School Restoration Society
www.hornbyschool.org

Hubbard House Underground Railroad Museum
www.hubbardhouseugrrmuseum.org

Hurry Hill Farm & Maple Syrup Museum
www.hurryhillfarm.org

John M. Lilley Library Archives,
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College
www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/erie/archives.html

Lake Shore Railway Museum
www.lakeshorerailway.com

Lawrence Park Historical Society
(814) 899-1505

North East Historical Society
www.northeasthistoricalsociety.org

Union City Historical Society
(814) 438-7573

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