



World Heritage USA

Quarterly Newsletter for Members of US/ICOMOS

Q1 2019 (January - March)

2018 Retrospective

2018 brought exciting new changes and opportunities to US/ICOMOS, including a new Executive Director, Jane I. Seiter, Ph.D., who joined us in August; a move to new offices at 1602 L Street NW in Washington, DC, in September; and a very successful Symposium and Soirée in San Francisco in November. Here are some of the highlights of the year:

All Year: We kicked off the year with an Introduction to [ICOMOS International Scientific Committees](#) (ISCs) in our January *Members' Newsletter* and followed this with monthly interviews with US-based ISC leaders in *US/ICOMOS at Work*. If you missed any of these newsletters, [you can find them all archived here](#). We weren't able to feature every ISC (there are 28!), but if there's an ISC you are curious about and would like us to feature in future, [please let us know](#).

January, Puerto Rico: then-Executive Director Bill Pencek joined [ICOFORT](#) President and US/ICOMOS member Milagros Flores Román for a series of meetings and site visits to provide a sense of the challenges confronting those working on the front lines in Puerto Rico and to identify how US/ICOMOS and ICOMOS might assist. Meeting participants included (left to right below): Bill Pencek, Milagros Flores Román, Carmen Maria Lopez from the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña (ICP), and Marel del Toro Cabrera, Carlos Rubio and Gloria Ortiz from the Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).



March, Charlottesville, VA: US/ICOMOS was proud to co-sponsor "Interpreting and Representing Slavery and its Legacies in Museums and Sites: International Perspectives," a conference at the University of Virginia and Thomas Jefferson's Monticello. The conference brought experts from more than 20 nations to share and discuss methods and approaches, including members of UNESCO's [International Scientific Committee of the Slave Route Project](#). Below, Milton Guran presented on Valongo Wharf World Heritage Site, the principal disembarkation site of enslaved Africans in South America. [Valongo Wharf, located in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, was inscribed as a World Heritage site in 2017](#). Video footage of [conference sessions can be viewed here](#).



April, online: US/ICOMOS partnered with the National Park Service (NPS) in a 24-day celebration of World Heritage in the US beginning on April 18th, World Heritage Day. 2018's theme was #Heritage4Generations. We featured all US-based sites on our expanded WorldHeritageUSA.org website and also featured Tentative List sites such as the Civil Rights sites (pictured at right) whose dossiers are being prepared for future nomination. The [multi-year plan for nominating the Civil Rights sites is described here](#).

US/ICOMOS @usicomos · 12 May 2018
 Do you know how #WorldHeritage site identification and nomination works? This document regarding US Civil Rights Sites provides a concise overview: bit.ly/2G63zwg. Many people are working on this important effort! #WorldHeritageUSA #Heritage4Generations #CivilRights



May, Washington, DC: in late May, the US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program (IEP) Class of 2018 arrived in Washington to kick off their summer internships. Nine participants gathered to learn about the US historic preservation program, the World Heritage program, and to tour local sites. Below left, they're pictured at Dumbarton Oaks Gardens. The 2018 interns helped [US/ICOMOS launch a successful Instagram account](#) too, providing a fascinating window into their professional and recreational activities in the US and around the globe. Below right, intern Aanchal Mehta (India) posted a photo to Instagram from a visit to Galveston, Texas.



June, Washington, DC: 5 new members joined the US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees. One of our 2018 goals was to expand US/ICOMOS's presence on the West Coast and 3 of our 5 new trustees represent that effort. Pictured left to right below, our newest trustees are: Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA, LEAP AP; Peyton Hall, FAIA; T. Destry Jarvis; Zoe Leung; and Dr. Sheree Wen.



June/July, Manama, Bahrain: many US/ICOMOS members attended the 42nd Session of the World Heritage Committee meeting in Bahrain. US/ICOMOS President Doug Comer and other ICOMOS national committee leaders met with the Africa Unit of the World Heritage Center and the African World Heritage Fund regarding the development of partnerships with universities that instruct in English to further heritage preservation in Africa. US members also participated in forums dedicated to Climate Change and World Heritage and forming an ICOMOS Indigenous Culture Working Group.

July, Washington, DC: US/ICOMOS paid a very fond farewell to Executive Director Bill Pencek, pictured below left at the Grand Canyon, and warmly welcomed new Executive Director, Jane I. Seiter, Ph.D., pictured below right in Baltimore.



August, Washington, DC: the IEP participants convened in Washington for the IEP Symposium after completing their internships. They also toured Baltimore and celebrated their accomplishments with US/ICOMOS IEP Committee members, trustees, program sponsors and members at the IEP Closing Reception. The IEP Class of 2018 is pictured below with US/ICOMOS President Doug Comer.



November, San Francisco, CA: Fall 2018 was devoted to organizing, promoting and convening the US/ICOMOS Forward Together Symposium and the Soiree to Protect World Heritage Sites and National Monuments in San Francisco. With the help of devoted volunteers and members, both events were a great success, bringing together heritage professionals from around the US and the world. Below left, Symposium Program Committee Chairs Nora Mitchell and Jessica Brown welcome participants. Below right, Plenary panelists Jon Jarvis, Stephanie Meeks, Krystal Buckley and Tim Badman participated in a moderated discussion of *The Goals, Challenges and Future Trajectory of the Culture-Nature/Nature-Culture Journey*.



December, Buenos Aires, Argentina: US/ICOMOS members gathered for the ICOMOS 2018 Annual General Assembly and a Scientific Symposium on the theme of "Sustainability: Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development." Look for our recap below.

2019: The Year Ahead

All year: Despite the formal withdrawal of the United States from UNESCO at the end of 2018, the United States remains a signatory to the World Heritage Convention. This provides us with the basis for continuing constructive involvement in programs activities that will advance preservation of world cultural and natural heritage. US/ICOMOS has been very active in pursuing dimensions of this involvement that provide increasing benefit to communities the world over. We can see this in our leadership in the culture-nature journey and our increasing advocacy for indigenous heritage groups as traditional stewards of natural and cultural resources. In 2019, we will enhance working relationships with ICOMOS national and scientific committees in order to move forward toward the broad goals of the World Heritage Convention and remain an active participant in World Heritage. The role of US/ICOMOS within the US is more important than ever in advocating for the significance of heritage conservation at the national and international levels. We take this mission very seriously and hope that you, our members, will assist in our advocacy and all other efforts.

January: US/ICOMOS Trustees have instituted a new Action Committee structure for organizing the activities of US/ICOMOS in 2019 and beyond. Trustees will devote their time and talents to Development, Communications, Programs and other specialized committees in order to sustain and foster US/ICOMOS and World Heritage in the US and to support US/ICOMOS's small staff.

Communications: We have committed to updating and improving the US/ICOMOS website; increasing the frequency of our posts on social media; and to introducing our members to our IEP sponsors via our US/ICOMOS at Work monthly e-blasts in 2019.

January - August: International Exchange Program 2019. Hosts have been chosen and applicants are under review now. Invitations will go out in early February with the goal of finalizing internships by mid-March. Please consider [supporting us](#) in this singular international educational exchange program!

April: US/ICOMOS will celebrate World Heritage Day on April 18th with a lecture at the National Building Museum and with renewed focus on WorldHeritageUSA.org. Look for more information soon.

May: the Gala Celebration of World Heritage will be held at the Cosmos Club in Washington, DC, on 2 May 2019. This is our most important fundraiser of the year and its success is crucial to the organization. We will celebrate US World Heritage, award the Murtagh|Graham Prize to a young professional, and honor major accomplishments in the US/ICOMOS family. We hope that you will [attend](#) or [make a charitable contribution](#) to support our efforts.

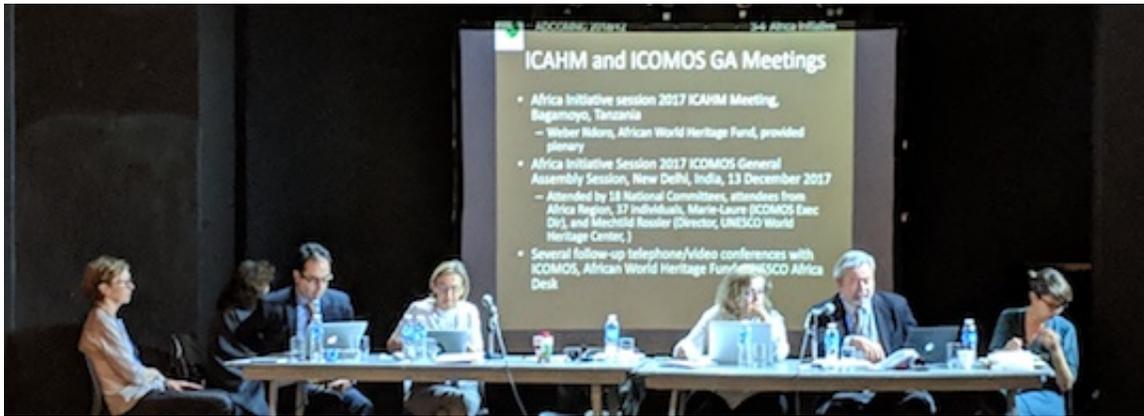
June - July: The 43rd session of the World Heritage Committee will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 30 June to 10 July 2019. The [20th-Century Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright](#) World Heritage nomination has been submitted for consideration: we are hoping that these 8 works of modern architecture will be recognized for their Outstanding Universal Value and inscribed on the World Heritage list.

November/December: US/ICOMOS will hold a Member Symposium in Washington, DC. Date and location to be announced soon.

US/ICOMOS at the ICOMOS 2018 Annual General Assembly

The 2018 ICOMOS Annual General Assembly, Advisory Committee and Scientific Symposium took place 4-8 December in Buenos Aires, Argentina. US/ICOMOS leaders, members, and IEP alumni turned out in force, playing major roles in many of the events—and enjoying the hospitality of our hosts. Highlights include:

US/ICOMOS President Doug Comer, pictured below reporting on the progress of the ICOMOS Africa Initiative at the National Committee meeting, was elected Vice President of the ICOMOS Advisory Committee. Congratulations, Doug, from all of us at US/ICOMOS!



US/ICOMOS Executive Committee member James Reap, Coordinator of the ICOMOS Scientific Council (below second from left), and ICOFORT President Milagros Flores Román (below far right) presented at the Advisory Committee meeting.



At the Scientific Symposium, US/ICOMOS members and IEP alumnae led an inspiring session on the implementation of sustainable development goals in San Antonio, Texas. Shown below left to right are 2018 IEP alumna Ilaria Rosetti, Rogelio Muñoz of the San Antonio World Heritage Office, 2018 IEP alumna Maria Elena Almaraz, and Claudia Guerra of the San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation.



Attendees visited a number of iconic historic buildings and cultural events in the Buenos Aires region, including (left to right) Teatro Colón; the open-air Grand National Tango celebration at Plaza de Maya; the Canottieri Italian Rowing Club in Tigre, which was added to the World Heritage Tentative List in 2017; and Casa Curutchet, Le Corbusier's only project in South America, which was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2016.



The next Annual General Assembly will be held in Marrakesh, Morocco, from 12-18 October 2019, while the 20th ICOMOS General Assembly will take place in October 2020 in Sydney, Australia. All ICOMOS members are invited to attend--we hope to see you there!

Tickets on Sale Now for US/ICOMOS Gala Celebration of World Heritage

Make plans now to join us the evening of Thursday, 2 May 2019, at the Cosmos Club in Washington, DC. We will celebrate World Heritage; award the [2018 Murtagh | Graham Prize](#) and the [Ann Webster Smith Award](#); honor new fellows; and commemorate the 2018 passing of William R. Murtagh, Ph.D., and Roy Eugene Graham, FAIA, luminaries in international cultural heritage stewardship.



We are pleased to announce that our guest of honor will be Henry R. Muñoz, III. Mr. Muñoz is Chief Executive Officer of Muñoz and Company, one of the largest and oldest minority-owned design practices in the United States. Under his leadership, Muñoz and Company has developed an architecture that acknowledges the rapidly shifting demographics of the United States.

Purchase your tickets here: <https://www.usicomos.org/product-category/gala-tickets/>. The reception begins at 6 pm, followed by dinner at 7 pm. We hope to see you there!

ICOMOS News

Buenos Aires Declaration Marks the 70th Anniversary of the [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#)

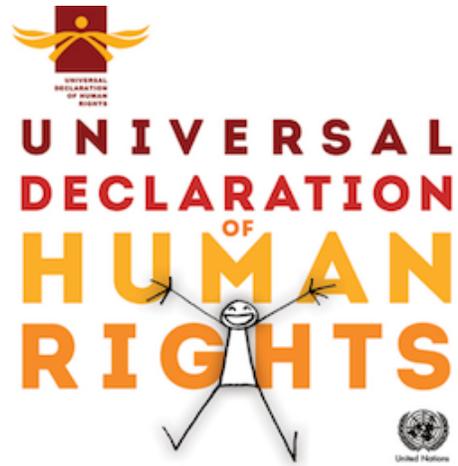
In celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, ICOMOS adopted the [Buenos Aires Declaration](#) entrenching Human Rights into cultural heritage activities.

ICOMOS supports the right to enjoy and partake of cultural heritage and reiterates its commitment to supporting Rights Based Approaches to World Heritage. ICOMOS has taken important initiatives over the last decade to respect, protect and fulfil the rights to culture for individuals and communities by including Rights Based approaches in its work, through its *Ethical Principles* and the *Our Common Dignity* Initiative.

ICOMOS members, Committees and groups are therefore encouraged to:

- Build strong relationships with communities and peoples in their work
- Embrace the principle of free, prior and informed consent of source communities before adopting measures concerning their specific cultural heritage
- Offer all possible assistance so that communities and right holders are consulted and invited to actively participate in the whole process of identification, selection, classification, interpretation, preservation and safeguarding of, as well as the stewardship of and development of cultural heritage.

[More information about the Buenos Aires Declaration can be found here.](#)



Get Involved

Zero Draft of the CCHWG's [Outline of Climate Change and Cultural Heritage](#) Deadline for US National Committee Comments: 20 Feb 2019

Dear ICOMOS National Committee and International Scientific Committee leaders,

I am writing on behalf of the [ICOMOS Climate Change and Heritage Working Group \(CCHWG\)](#) to invite your committee to provide feedback on the Zero Draft of the CCHWG's [Outline of Climate Change and Cultural Heritage](#). The purpose of this Outline is to comprehensively scope the intersection of cultural heritage and climate change and to inventory the types of impacts climate change is having on all types of heritage. The work of every ISC and indeed the work of every heritage professional has a climate change dimension. With your help, the CCHWG hopes the final Outline will capture all of them. The CCHWG launched the Outline project both to define its own remit and, more broadly, to help heritage actors understand their role in climate action and vice versa. [CCHWG members](#) worked for more than six months in order to produce the current draft, including [a scoping session held in Manama, Bahrain](#) in July.

The Zero Draft is now being shared for peer review: [Outline of Climate Change and Cultural Heritage](#). Each NC and ISC is invited to provide feedback as part of this process.

US/ICOMOS trustee Lisa Craig has volunteered to gather comments from US/ICOMOS members. Please [submit your comments to Lisa via email at this address](#) by 20 February 2019.

We thank you for your assistance with this project,

The Members of the ICOMOS Climate Change and Heritage Working Group

Call for Applications: Thinking and Planning the Future in Heritage Management

How do we perceive the future? Which future do heritage professionals work for? What heritage will be needed in the future (and how do we know)? How can we build capacity in future thinking among heritage professionals worldwide?

This is a call for applications to participate in the ICOMOS University Forum Workshop "Thinking and planning the future in heritage management" that will take place in Amsterdam, Netherlands, 11-14 June 2019. The deadline for applications is **8 February 2019**.

The workshop is organized by the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures at Linnaeus University, Sweden, and the School for Heritage, Memory and Material Culture, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, in collaboration with ICOMOS International and ICOMOS Netherlands. The call for applications is **open to ICOMOS members and in particular Emerging Professionals**. Only 10 places are available (5 are reserved for Emerging Professionals and there is a limited number of travel stipends available).

Please download the [Call for applications](#) for more information on the requirements and on the workshop programme.

Follow us on social media for real-time reporting on calendar items and deadlines, upcoming conferences and events, and breaking news



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.