US/ICOMOS Luncheon in Honor of UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova

The Executive Committee of the US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees recently hosted a luncheon in honor of Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO, on the occasion of her visit to Independence National Historical Park and World Heritage Site in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The luncheon was held March 15, 2012 at City Tavern, on the grounds of the park.

The luncheon was preceded by a “Town Hall Event” hosted by the National Park Service at Congress Hall, also on the grounds of the park. The event was billed as “Boosting Tourism and Travel to Pennsylvania and Its Historic and Cultural Sites” and also served to celebrate Independence Hall’s Designation as a World Heritage Site in 1979 and the 40th anniversary (2012) of the World Heritage Convention.

Speakers at the event, which was open to the public, included Cynthia MacLeod, Superintendent of the Independence National Historical Park, Jonathan B. Jarvis, Director of the National Park Service, and Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior. The Secretary introduced Ms. Bokova, who spoke about the importance of the relationship between UNESCO and the United States, noting that the idea of the World Heritage Convention originated in the U.S.

Other speakers included Congressman Chaka Fattah, 2nd District Pennsylvania, U.S. House of Representatives, and Rachel Jacobson, Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior.

US/ICOMOS was pleased that the following people were in attendance at the luncheon:

UNESCO
Mme. Irina Bokova, Director General, UNESCO
Paola Leonicini-Partoli, Senior Executive Officer, Director General, UNESCO
Eric Falt, Assistant Director General for External Relations, UNESCO
George Papagiannis, Washington Liaison, External Relations, UNESCO

ICOMOS
Gustavo Araoz, President, ICOMOS

U.S. Department of State
Nerissa Cook, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Organizations, U.S. Department of State

U.S. Department of the Interior
Rachel Jacobson, Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, U.S. Department of the Interior

U.S. National Park Service
Stephen Morris, Chief, Office of International Affairs, U.S. National Park Service
Jonathan B. Jarvis, Director, U.S. National Park Service
Independence Hall

Mission San Jose will be the site of the welcome dinner/40th anniversary celebration of the World Heritage Convention during the 15th US/ICOMOS International Symposium, May 31-June 2, 2012 in San Antonio, Texas

Cynthia MacLeod, Superintendent, Independence National Historical Park
Dennis Reidenbach, U.S. National Park Service

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
John Fowler, Executive Director, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and US National Commission for UNESCO

The History Channel
Libby O’Connell, Chief Historian, Senior Vice President Corporate Outreach, The History Channel

US/ICOMOS
George C. Skarmeas, Chair, US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees, and US National Commission for UNESCO
Jan C.K. Anderson, Vice Chair, US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees
Jeff Soule, Treasurer, US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees
Patricia O’Donnell, US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees
Andrew Potts, US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees
Donald G. Jones, Director, US/ICOMOS

UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, is headquartered in Paris.
http://www.unesco.org

ICOMOS, the International Council on Monuments and Sites, also is headquartered in Paris.
http://www.icomos.org

US/ICOMOS, the United States National Committee of ICOMOS, is based in Washington, DC.
http://www.usicomos.org

The U.S. National Commission for UNESCO is also based in Washington, DC.

15th US/ICOMOS International Symposium in San Antonio

The 15th annual US/ICOMOS International Symposium will be held May 31-June 2, 2012 in San Antonio, Texas. The theme of the conference is “Confluence of Cultures: World Heritage in the Americas” during which the San Antonio Missions, on the US Tentative List for nomination to the World Heritage List, will be highlighted.

The 2012 symposium will feature keynote presentations, four panel discussions, field tours of the Missions, including the Alamo, and three receptions, including the 40th anniversary celebration of the World Heritage Convention during the opening reception at Mission San Jose, all included in the single registration fee. In addition, a pre-conference tour of the Modern Movement in San Antonio also is being offered at an additional cost.

Program

The program schedule is available the symposium website at http://www.usicomos2012.com. Invitations are being sent to the selected speakers and presenters. Speakers and abstracts will be added soon.

Registration

For more information, go to http://www.usicomos2012.com/registration.html

To register online, go to http://www.usicomos.org/civicrm/event/register?id=17&reset=1

World Heritage Video Challenge

To help mark the 40th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention, the National Park Service, HISTORY, and the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO announce a video challenge “Why do you think U.S. World Heritage sites are important to the world?” Selected video submissions may be chosen for broadcasting on the HISTORY network as part of their focus on World Heritage. Submissions will be accepted until October 15, 2012.
For more information, including instructions on submitting a video, please go to http://www.state.gov/p/io/unesco/184012.htm

For more information on the US World Heritage Program, please visit the NPS Office of International Affairs 40th Anniversary website at http://www.nps.gov/oia/topics/worldheritage/World_Heritage_Anniversary.htm

ICAHM’s Annual Meeting in Cuzco

The ICOMOS International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM) is pleased to announce its international conference on archaeological heritage management, to be held in historic Cuzco, Peru on November 27-30 of this year. http://www.icomos.org/icahm/cuzco_home.html

Among the worldwide issues for consideration at this meeting are local stakeholder claims on archaeological heritage; sustainable development and community sustainability; tourism pressures and site preservation; heritage and rights; challenges to the validity and value of the World Heritage List as it quickly approaches 1,000 inscribed sites; the World Heritage List decision-making process; impacts of war, civil disorder, and natural disasters on archaeological sites; technical advances in archaeological heritage management.

Ample opportunities exist for tours of Cuzco, Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley before and after the conference. Contact Happy Tours at: tours@happyperu.com.

ICAHM will publish the best papers from this annual meeting in its publication series with Springer Press, “Multidisciplinary Perspectives in Archaeological Heritage Management.”

New Opportunity with the US Fulbright Program in Kosovo

The U.S. Fulbright Program in Kosovo (entering its 7th year) announces a new opportunity in Kosovo focusing on teaching Theory and Practice of the Restoration of Cultural Monuments. For more information, please visit http://catalog.cies.org/viewAward.aspx?n=3271

International Architectural Ideas Competition for a New National Museum of Afghanistan

The Ministry of Information and Culture of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan is proud to announce and endorse this International Architectural Ideas Competition for the design of a new National Museum of Afghanistan in Kabul. For more information, please visit http://www.see.af/ideas_competition_nma.html

Seeking Nominations for the 2012 World Monuments Fund/Knoll Modernism Prize

World Monuments Fund invites nominations for the 2012 World Monuments Fund/Knoll Modernism Prize. Awarded in fall 2012, the Prize is given to a design professional or firm in recognition of an innovative design solution that preserves or enhances a Modern landmark. A “Call for Nominations” flyer describing the steps and requirements for submissions is attached.

The deadline for nominations is July 31, 2012. Please write to modernism2012@wmf.org with any questions or to submit a nomination.

US/ICOMOS Supports National Archaeology Day

October 20, 2012

US/ICOMOS recently signed on as a supporting organization for the Archaeological Institute of America’s 2012 National Archaeology Day, which will be held October 20. Through this program, the AIA celebrates events and programs across the United States and Canada that promote archaeology and the “thrill of discovery.”

Visit the National Archaeology Day website at http://www.archaeological.org/NAD to learn more.
Conference Opportunities

Terra Conference: Call for Expressions of Interest

A call for expressions of interest in hosting the next Terra conference on the Study and Conservation of Earthen Architectural Heritage has been announced. Deadline for the first stage of Expressions of Interest is 15 April 2012.

Statement of Purpose: The International Scientific Committee on Earthen Architectural Heritage (ISCEAH) is issuing this Call for Expressions of Interest to find organizations and countries to promote, host, run and administer the next international conference known as “Terra”. The Terra conference, which occurs every three to five years approximately, is an international conference whose theme relates to the study and conservation of earthen architectural, archaeological and cultural landscape heritage.

Terra 2012 will take place in Lima, Peru over four days, 23-26 April, followed by post-conference tours, and is expected to have an attendance of 500 people. The main theme of Terra 2012 is focused on conservation of earthen architectural heritage against natural disasters and climate change. It is being held in collaboration with the Ibero-American Seminar on Earthen Architecture and Construction (XII SIACOT) and SismoAdobe 2012, as well as under the banner of the 40th anniversary of UNESCO’s World Heritage Convention.

Proposed Conference Schedule: The next Terra conference will be scheduled for 2015 or 2016, depending on the host country’s preference.

For more information in ISCEAH, go to http://isceah.icomos.org
For more information on the call for expressions of interest, contact Submit all responses to John Hurd, john.hurd@icomos.org or Pamela Jerome, pamela.jerome@gmail.com.

Preservation Education Conference

The School of Architecture, Art and Historic Preservation at Roger Williams University is hosting a Preservation Education Conference in Bristol, Rhode Island (USA), September 8 to 9, 2012. The goal of the conference is to bring higher education leaders in historic environment programs (e.g., historic preservation/heritage conservation) together from across the globe to present their research and address issues in pedagogy and curriculum development.

School of Architecture, Art and Historic Preservation, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island, U.S.A.

Deadline for submission: March 31, 2012. For more information and a full description of the call for abstracts, contact Jeremy Wells, conference chair, at jwells@rwu.edu.

Cultural Heritage Protection in Times of Risk

Yıldız Technical University and ICOMOS-ICORP (International Committee on Risk Preparedness) are organizing an international symposium on “Cultural Heritage Protection in Times of Risk: Challenges and Opportunities” to be held November 15-17, 2012 in Istanbul Turkey.

The aim of this symposium is to contribute towards developing solutions on an international platform by sharing planned and realized works on defining and mitigating slow as well as catastrophic risks, especially natural and human induced disasters and conflict situations, that threaten cultural heritage in short and long terms.

Deadline is March 20, 2012.

Detailed information can be found by visiting the webpage at http://www.har.yildiz.edu.tr

For further information, please contact the Secretariat at har@yildiz.edu.tr

Rutgers Conference on Cultural Landscapes: Preservation in the 21st Century
Celebrating the 40th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention and the 20th anniversary of the Declaration on Cultural Landscapes, this conference will bring together scholars and professionals from around the world to address the debates over the interrelationship between culture and nature, the challenges of preservation within historic urban landscapes, the development of an integrated approach to identifying and assessing cultural landscapes, and the challenges of developing conservation strategies that reflect the complexities of world cultures and sites and respect their multiple stakeholders.

The conference is sponsored by the Program in Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies at Rutgers University with the participation of the Center for Art and Cultural Policy Studies, the Woodrow Wilson School (Princeton University), Penn Cultural Heritage Center (University of Pennsylvania), the Bloustein School of Public Policy and Planning (Rutgers University), and the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences/Landscape Architecture (Rutgers University).

The conference will be held October 12-14, 2012 at Rutgers University. More information can be found at http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/812/