Welcome to “US/ICOMOS at Work” e-news blast, a monthly update on what US/ICOMOS is doing to preserve and promote world heritage and international knowledge exchange on preservation topics. We share these brief communications monthly with our members and supporters.

--- LATEST NEWS & EVENTS ---

2017 International Exchange Program Underway

On May 31st, US/ICOMOS kicked off three days of orientation activities for our 2017 IEP Participants. In between tours of museums and historic sites, participants were briefed on the U.S. historic preservation program and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; the National Park Service Climate Change Response Program; and World Heritage in the United States and the NPS Office of International Affairs.

The Opening Reception, which took place in the Heurich House Conservatory, allowed IEP participants to meet US/ICOMOS members, supporters and guests. The Orientation provides time
for participants to get to know one another and how historic preservation is structured in the United States before they head to their posts here and abroad. Our goal is to foster the international exchange of preservation knowledge and lifelong relationships that promote international cooperation and understanding.

Mary Kay Lanzillotta, FAIA, LEED AP, of Hartman Cox Architects, shared details of the recent renovation and expansion of the National Gallery of Art East Building.

IEP participants toured the Dumbarton Oaks Gardens with Gail Griffin, Director of Gardens and Grounds. The Gardens will close for the season on July 10th in order to undertake large-scale improvements to the water-supply network and to enhance storm-water management.

Are You a Former International Exchange Program Participant?

Or do you know any former IEP participants? We are in the process of updating our records and would appreciate your help! If you are a former participant, please fill in this form: http://usicomos.org/internship/alumni-network/

If you know any former participants, please email them this newsletter and ask them to follow the link if they're not already in touch with us. Thank you for your assistance!
Opportunity for Comment on National Monument Review

US/ICOMOS encourages its members and friends to submit comments to Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke regarding 26 national monument designations currently under review. One of the many monuments included is the World Heritage site Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument.

Guidance for how to make effective comments can be found here. The deadline for comments is July 10, 2017. Complete information and a link to the comments page is here: Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment. US/ICOMOS joined the Coalition for American Heritage and other national preservation organizations to provide these comments.

In an early indication of how these reviews may proceed, Secretary Zinke recommended reducing the size of the Bears Ears National Monument in Utah, writing that “monument designation is not the best use of the land.” Bears Ears in its current state contains approximately 100,000 archaeological sites. The public comment period for Bears Ears is closed. However, there is still time for the public to submit comments for the other monuments. The goal of these comments is to help the Department of the Interior “formulate recommendations for Presidential actions, legislative proposals, or other appropriate actions to carry out that policy.”

Make Plans Now to attend the US/ICOMOS Leadership Forum and Benefit

The 2017 US/ICOMOS Leadership Forum and Benefit will take place in Washington, DC on November 29th and 30th. Join your fellow US/ICOMOS members and international heritage experts for a deep dive into the current structure of the World Heritage Program and an opportunity to assess the current and future role of the US and US/ICOMOS at home and abroad in stewarding the heritage assets of the world. Registration information will be emailed soon.

Mark Your Calendars

Several other World Heritage events are approaching in the second half of 2017. We hope that you will make plans to attend or follow these events on social media:

- The World Heritage Committee 41st session, July 2-12, 2017, Krakow, Poland
- US/ICOMOS Board of Trustees meeting, September 17-19, Grand Canyon National Park
  - The Board will meet with managers and friends from Grand Canyon National Park (World Heritage Site inscribed 1979) and Chaco Culture National Historical Park (World Heritage Site inscribed 1987) to discuss stewardship challenges and opportunities.
- ICOMOS Triennial General Assembly, Delhi, December 8-10, 11-15, 16-17, 2017
Membership support is crucial to our mission.

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.