



Preserve America Summit Implementation Report **Progress Report**

Engage youth in historic preservation by promoting programs that involve them in hands-on preservation activities, creating links between preservation organizations and youth groups, and working toward establishing an ongoing youth summit as part of the Preserve America initiative.

Lead Agency/Agencies: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

Summit Recommendation Progress: The ACHP has created a partnership with the Corporation for National and Community Service (the Corporation), which is the nation's largest grant maker supporting service and volunteering, and with key ACHP member agencies that have existing significant youth involvement activities involving historic preservation (primarily Departments of Interior and Agriculture at this point). The ACHP is working closely with federal agencies to initiate service learning and community service efforts within existing federal programs that utilize heritage resources and connect them with schools at local levels across the nation. Through programs such as Learn and Serve America, National Park Friends and education programs, More Kids in the Woods, Take it Outside, etc., opportunities are provided for America's young people to make a difference while addressing critical community needs. The ACHP and its partners propose to build connections between historic preservation organizations and schools nationwide on the local level to utilize local historic resources in academic and community life. ACHP is also working with The History Channel, the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, and others to stimulate similar efforts outside the federal youth involvement structure.

The ACHP, working with the Corporation, created a Web-based feature to help all historic preservation entities create service learning opportunities in their communities.

The ACHP, with Heritage Education Services of the National Park Service, and the Corporation, unveiled its effort to foster community service using heritage resources to the broader preservation community at the October 2008 National Trust for Historic Preservation annual conference. This effort is continuing with presentations and participation at various conferences and organizations across the nation, including the Small Museum Association annual conference and with proposals circulating including the national conference of the Partnership for the National Trails System in July and the American Association for State and Local History in August, which represent a broadening of outreach targets for the ACHP.

Additionally, the ACHP presented a session in conjunction with The History Channel at the Department of Education's Teaching American History Annual Project Directors Conference in New York City on January 7, 2009.

Separate from this effort but complementary to fulfillment of the Summit recommendation, ACHP member Ann Pritzlaff of Colorado Preservation, Inc. has organized a statewide Preserve America youth summit in Colorado and presented on that topic at the National Trust conference in October 2008. In the

process she has consulted with The History Channel and worked with other experts to stage the youth summit as a regular event in conjunction with the statewide preservation conference.

Next Actions: At a December 17 meeting of federal organizations involved in the historic preservation service learning concept, agencies were tasked to create at least one such project involving a historic preservation organization and a local school, and use that as a template for replication across the agency in 2009. The ACHP is partnering with the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership to create such opportunities in conjunction with the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth and the 150th anniversary of the Civil War beginning in 2009. The first such efforts are expected to center on the John Brown Raid on Harper's Ferry, involving students and teachers in projects leading to the October 2009 commemoration of the raid and allowing their participation in this historic event through community service projects. Other federal entities are creating their initial service learning projects and partnerships at this time.

The ACHP also will explore creation of an across-government working group to share information about existing youth involvement and education activities in real property and archival agencies, with ultimate creation of a Web resource that would allow people searching for such opportunities anywhere in the nation to find a variety of local or nearby possibilities.

Important Links:

Corporation for National and Community Service www.nationalservice.org

National Service Learning Clearinghouse www.servicelearning.org

Colorado Preservation, Inc., Preserve America Youth Summit

<http://www.coloradopreservation.org/spc/spc2008/youthsummit/2008YouthSummitFactSheet.pdf>

Comments or Questions? Please send comments or questions to preserveamerica@achp.gov.

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