Preserve America News from The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

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2007 Presidential Award Deadline Nov. 1
We want your input. Nominations are now being accepted for the 2007 Preserve America Presidential Awards. This distinguished honor is given to four entities every year during Preservation Month—May. The purpose is to celebrate outstanding achievements in preservation, including heritage tourism, technology and partnerships. Anyone can enter a noteworthy project, completed within the last five years. Nominations must be postmarked no later than Nov. 1, 2006. Click here for guidelines and form.

Preserve America Summit in New Orleans
Mrs. Laura Bush, Honorary Chair of Preserve America, together with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, will lead a national Preserve America Summit Oct. 18-20, 2006 in New Orleans, Louisiana marking the 40th anniversary of the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. Attendance at the Summit is by invitation only. Summit participants will review the major components of the national historic preservation program and make a series of recommendations designed to advance historic preservation programs and policy. Expert panels will set forth ideas on several action items. An opportunity for public comment will be announced in the near future. Click here for details.

Communities are Adding Up
As of Aug. 28, 2006, Mrs. Laura Bush has designated 400 communities as “Preserve America Communities.” Neighborhoods and communities who use their historic assets for economic development, community
revitalization, education, and heritage tourism, among other things, are eligible to be designated. Among many of the benefits of designation is the ability to apply for Preserve America grants, so click here to find out how to apply for community designation. The next deadline is Dec. 1, 2006.

Preserve America Grants

Congress approved $5 million in Preserve America grants for FY 2006. The matching grants program supports a variety of activities related to heritage tourism and innovative approaches to the use of historic properties. In March 45 grants totaling $3.5 million were awarded, while the remainder will be awarded by the end of September. The President’s budget seeks $10 million in funding for Preserve America grants for FY 2007, which needs to be approved and finalized by Congress. View listing of grant awards to date.

National Wildlife Refuge Partnership Grants

The National Wildlife Refuge System and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation announce the National Wildlife Refuge Preserve America Grant Program. This grant program provides competitive grants ($10,000 - $15,000) to help fund national wildlife refuge interpretive and education projects on history and historic sites and how they contribute to our conservation and understanding of natural resources. Nonprofit organizations interested in partnering with national wildlife refuges are eligible; grants must be matched. The deadline is Nov. 1, 2006, with funding decisions expected in February 2007. Click here for details.

Discover NOAA’s Pioneers: People and Technology

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has a wealth of heritage resources that recall the agency’s history and legacy of service to the nation. The “Treasures of NOAA’s Ark,” an exhibit of heritage artifacts, is available on a virtual tour. During NOAA Heritage Week, Feb. 6-11, 2006, those artifacts were put on display at the agency’s headquarters in Silver Spring, MD. NOAA also saluted eight pioneers, past and present, who have made significant contributions to the understanding of land, sea and sky.

Dates & Events

Oct. 18-20, 2006 - Preserve America Summit in New Orleans
Nov. 1, 2006 - 2007 Preserve America Presidential Awards deadline
Nov. 1, 2006 - Deadline to apply for National Wildlife Refuge Partnership grants
Dec. 1, 2006 - Preserve America Community designation applications due
The White House is working with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and other federal agencies to implement Preserve America. For more information about the initiative and its programs visit www.PreserveAmerica.gov.

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