



Preserve America Communities, Stewards, Grant Projects and Awards Celebrating Asian American/Pacific Islander Heritage

The **Preserve America Communities** program recognizes municipalities, counties, neighborhoods in large cities, and tribal communities that protect and celebrate their heritage. Since the program began in 2003, 906 communities have been designated Preserve America Communities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. To read more about Preserve America communities and for applications forms, please visit <http://www.preserveamerica.gov/PACommunities.html>.

Preserve America communities interpreting Asian American/Pacific Islander heritage include the following:

American Samoa

California

Chinatown (Los Angeles)
Historic Filipinotown (Los Angeles)
Japantown (San Francisco)
Koreatown (Los Angeles)
Little Tokyo (Los Angeles)
Thai Town (Los Angeles)
Weaverville

Colorado

Prowers County

Hawaii

Chinatown Special Historic District (Honolulu)
Kaua`i County
Maui County

Oregon

Jacksonville



Preserve America Stewards is a designation program recognizing programs which demonstrate a successful use of volunteer time and commitment in order to help care for our historic heritage. Two such steward organizations are the Friends of 'Iolani Palace in Hawaii and the Amache Preservation Society in Colorado. For more information and application forms, please visit <http://www.preserveamerica.gov/stewards.html>.

Applications from prospective new Preserve America Communities and Stewards organizations are accepted quarterly. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation administers Preserve America with assistance from the U.S. Department of the Interior.

The **Preserve America grant program** provided funding to designated Preserve America Communities as well as State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices to support preservation efforts through heritage tourism, education, and historic preservation planning. Though these grants remain authorized, they have not been funded by Congress since 2010. Administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, funded activities included interpretation and education, planning, promotion, training, and research and documentation of cultural and historic resources. Successful projects involved public-private partnerships and serve as models to communities nationwide for heritage tourism, historic preservation planning, history education, and economic development.

Some related Preserve America grant projects:

Asian Pacific Islander Neighborhoods Cultural Heritage and Hospitality Education and Training

City of Los Angeles' Preserve America Neighborhoods: Chinatown, Historic Filipinotown, Koreatown, Little Tokyo and Thai Town

This project aimed to build cultural identity and understanding within various Asian-Pacific Islander neighborhoods in Los Angeles and to reach out to the greater community through the provision of training materials and programs in historic preservation, cultural tourism, and hospitality services. The project included a critical assessment of historic and cultural resources, development of hospitality training materials, training materials for communities to become self-sustaining heritage centers, and provided historic preservation professional development opportunities for community residents.

Weaverville Marketing and Wayfinding Project

Weaverville, California

This heritage marketing project promoted local heritage festivals, advertised local museum exhibits, and developed and implemented wayfinding and identity-building elements specified in the Weaverville Revitalization Plan.

Regional Wayfinding and Interpretation for Southeast Colorado

Otero County, CO

This project linked and promoted a variety of historic assets found in the southeast region of Colorado. Materials developed included a guidebook to heritage sites, maps, a regional heritage website, all of which will increase awareness of the assets ranging from a Japanese Internment Camp, the Santa Fe Trail, local museums, and State and National historic sites.

Developing the Visitor Infrastructure for Chinatown

Honolulu, Hawaii

The City and County of Honolulu will develop a visitor infrastructure to showcase the historic nature of Honolulu's Chinatown through various exhibits, tours, and promotion of the area's businesses.

In November of 2013, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation **Chairman's Award for Achievement in Historic Preservation** was presented to The Asian Pacific American Heritage program, a joint effort by the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience in Seattle and the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. More information is available at http://www.achp.gov/news_20131114_award-to-heritage-prog.html. An interview with the Museum's Deputy Executive Director, Cassie Chinn, is available at <http://www.achp.gov/inclusiveness-cassie.html>.