Alaska Students Win National Recognition in History Day Contest

Congratulations to Brian Ely & Tigan Donaldson! These two students from Fairbanks’ West Valley High School placed second nationwide in the “senior group website” competition at the annual National History Day contest in June at the University of Maryland.

Brian and Tigan impressed the judges with their website titled “China’s Surge into Silk: The Exploration, Encounter, and Exchange of the Silk Road.” With about 3,000 students competing for scholarships and several other prizes in 18 different categories, competition was stiff.

Two other Alaska entries also received high honors: Annemarie Timling of West Valley High, and Barnette students Nina Harbison and Kate Masterman, earned “Outstanding Entry” awards. But that’s not the end of the story... Continued on Page 6
Greetings, AAHP Members!

In the last issue, we shared the Most Endangered Historic Properties list for 2016, and in this issue we want to remind you of our annual fundraiser to support the grant portion of this program. Please join us Saturday, October 8th, at the historic Pioneer Schoolhouse in Anchorage, for food, jazz, drinks, and a silent auction with some amazing donated items, including stays at historic hotels.

Doors will open at 6pm. Funds raised during this event will be granted to one or more of the 10 Most Endangered Historic Properties to assist in their preservation efforts. If you are one of the 10 properties, do not forget to submit your grant application by October 15. We will announce the recipient at the 2016 AAHP Annual Meeting.

AAHP’s 2016 Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 1, from 5:30 pm-7:30 pm, at the Pioneer Schoolhouse in Anchorage. We are pleased to announce that our guest speaker will be from the Talkeetna Historical Society, recipient of last year’s 10 Most grant. Ms. Deyoe of the Society will share their preservation work on the 3 German Bachelors Cabin in Talkeetna. Built in 1936, this log cabin is a contributing property to the National Register of Historic Places-listed Talkeetna Historic District.

See you at the annual meeting! And many thanks for your support,

Anne

Celebrate Swedish Holidays at the Oscar Anderson House Museum

Please join AAHP volunteers, members, and board members for a Swedish-themed holiday the first two weekends of December.

The Oscar Anderson House Museum, located at 420 M Street (in Elderberry Park), will be decorated by longtime museum caretaker, Mary Flaherty, in the Swedish tradition. Visitors will “step back in time” to Christmas in early Anchorage with special volunteer-led 40 minute holiday tours running continuously from noon – 4 pm each day.

Special Swedish-themed seasonal treats and activities will also be shared with visitors.

Admission for these events is $10 for adults and teens, and $5 for children 3-12. All proceeds from this fund raising event will be used for the Oscar Anderson House Museum operations. Events will go on in rain, snow, or sunshine.

Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!
Nominations are now open for the 2016 Historic Preservation Award from AAHP. This award recognizes a project, organization, agency, or individual exemplifying the highest standards among preservation efforts in Alaska.

Areas of excellence under which a nomination can be made include lifetime achievement, stewardship, and projects emphasizing adaptive use, restoration, or stabilization. Past winners include Robert (Bob) Mitchell for lifetime achievement, Jim Renkert for stewardship, Thad Poulson for lifetime achievement, and Darrin and Sheri Hamming for excellence in preservation.

Nominations are due no later than October 15, 2016. AAHP will announce the winner on November 1, 2016, at the AAHP Annual Meeting.

For more information or to submit a nomination, please visit our website at www.aahp-online.net. For additional information or to access an application, please visit http://www.aahp-online.net/10-most-endangered.html, or you can telephone AAHP at 907-929-9870.

Applications are due by October 15 for the 10 Most Endangered Historic Properties grant for 2016. If a property was on the list of 10 Most Endangered Historic Properties earlier, it is eligible to apply to AAHP for the matching grant.

Funds from this grant can be used for hands-on preservation work on endangered properties or can serve as seed money to leverage funding from other sources.

For more information or to access an application, please visit http://www.aahp-online.net/10-most-endangered.html, or you can telephone AAHP at 907-929-9870.

The Alaska Association for Historic Preservation’s 2016 Annual Meeting will take place Tuesday, November 1, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at the Pioneer Schoolhouse (lower level) in Anchorage. This year’s theme is Rehabilitation.

After the business meeting, which will include election of officers for 2017 and reports of this year’s activities for AAHP and its programs, we will announce two different awards. One is this year’s winner of the 2016 Historic Preservation Award. The other is the recipient or recipients of the 10 Most Endangered Historic Properties grant for 2016.

Finally, we will be treated to an update on the preservation work on historic properties in Talkeetna through the Talkeetna Historical Society, including properties from AAHP’s 10 Most Endangered Historic Properties.

Light refreshments will be provided.
October 8

Dinner and Silent Auction to Benefit Alaska’s 10 Most Endangered Historic Properties

On October 8, 2016, from 6-9 p.m., at the historic Pioneer Schoolhouse in Anchorage, AAHP will host its Second Annual Dinner and Silent Auction benefiting the grant program for Alaska’s 10 Most Endangered Historic Properties. This program supports activities to help preserve historic properties in Alaska.

This will be an evening of great food*, live entertainment, fun and games, as well as an eclectic mix of items in the silent auction.

*Adult beverages will be available.

Reservations are required.

For more information, please call 907-929-9870 or visit the AAHP website at http://www.aahp-online.net/.

Come join the fun while supporting a worthy cause

We look forward to seeing you there
**Nike Site Summit Tours for 2016**

Nike Site Summit tours were first offered by Friends of Nike Site Summit (FONSS) in 2012, and in 2016 they continued with 7 public tours, including the first tour reserved for schoolchildren. A group of 6th grade homeschooled students and their parents attended a special afternoon tour on June 17th.

Nike Site Summit was one of three Nike-Hercules installations protecting Anchorage during the Cold War. Site Summit was decommissioned in 1979 and is one of only three substantially intact Nike installations remaining in the U.S. In 2009, under an agreement with Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), FONSS was given the opportunity to stabilize six buildings and save them from demolition.

This season, Nike Site Summit veterans and other FONSS volunteers highlighted the stabilization completed on these six structures at Site Summit, taking the tours inside the Launch Control Building for the first time. Other featured buildings on the tours were the previously completed Sentry Stations and the Dog Kennels.

A FONSS tour bus approaches the Upper Site at Nike Site Summit. The Upper Site and the Lower Site are separated by 1,000 feet in elevation. The radar tower is one of three with specially designed closures to protect the equipment from harsh Alaska weather and winds; the towers have been recently painted through the agreement with JBER. Near Anchorage, Nike Site Summit is located on JBER, in the Chugach Mountains close to Arctic Valley.

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**Oscar Anderson House Museum Summer Tours for 2016**

The summer tour season for the Oscar Anderson House Museum closed on August 31 this year. For three months, a steady stream of visitors experienced the house museum. Tours were led by Mary Flaherty, AAHP members, and others with a passion for Anchorage history.

Although now closed for the summer, it will be open for tours during the first two week-ends of December to celebrate Swedish Holidays, honoring the heritage of the Oscar Anderson family. More details to come at http://www.aahp-online.net/oscar-anderson-house-museum.html.

The Oscar Anderson House Museum
Alaska History Day Students Win National Honors (continued from Page 1)

Harbison and Masterman’s accolades came for their Junior Division group website entry, which was titled “Japanese Picture Brides: Encountering Racism and Exploring Unfamiliar Culture.” Timling’s award was given for her project that exemplified quality work and balanced research in her Senior Division documentary, “Claire Fejes: The Gauguin of the Arctic.”

In addition to honoring students, National History Day also acknowledges the teachers. The Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award recognizes the work and dedication of teachers to their students and the National History Day program.

Each affiliate, or state, program will see two winning teachers: one for the Junior Division, one for the Senior Division. Then two national winners are selected from the affiliate awardees, with cash awards for both the affiliate and national winners. Alaska’s 2016 Behring Teacher Awards go to Natalie Moten (Junior Division) of Clark Middle School in Anchorage, and to Sean Genson (Senior Division) of West Valley High in Fairbanks. AAHP wishes to salute their outstanding achievements, as well as the commendable contributions of all the teachers of Alaska’s History Day program.

About History Day

National History Day is headquartered at the University of Maryland. Engaging more than 500,000 students and 30,000 teachers annually, National History Day has state, or affiliate, programs that are found all over the U.S., in Guam and American Samoa, and in international schools in South Asia, China, Korea, and Central America. The History Day program fosters historical research and skills development in critical thinking, problem-solving, research, and reading for students in grades 6-12. It also provides graduate education for teachers.

Students in the History Day program develop a research project centered around a theme, and the projects are competitively evaluated. History Day students compete at either the junior (grades 6-8) or senior (grades 9-12) division in one of several categories, either individually or in a group of two or more. The categories are website, documentary, exhibit, and performance. One other category, written paper, can be entered only by an individual student. Local contests, then affiliate-level contests, narrow the projects to each category’s top two, which can then be entered in the national contest in June. The week-long national contest at the University of Maryland affords the students and their families not only the fun and excitement of the contest, but also the opportunity to experience our nation’s Capitol.

History Day in Alaska, or Alaska History Day, is the state affiliate of National History Day, involving students and teachers from many communities around Alaska. Partners include the National Park Service and AAHP. The state contest is held each spring, and the top two entries from each category are eligible for entry in the National Contest.
Media Spotlight

AAHP’s 10 Most Endangered Historic Properties for 2016 are in the spotlight with recent television, newspaper, and radio coverage.

Set against Anchorage’s 4th Avenue Theatre, which is one of the properties on this year’s list, KTBY-TV (Fox) interviewed AAHP Board member Mikhail Siskoff about Alaska’s historic properties, including the 4th Avenue Theatre. Access that interview at the following: http://www.youralaskalink.com/news/program-draws-attention-to-alaska-s-most-endangered-historic-properties/article_551f7128-5f8c-11e6-b283-3343e4ae6c64.html.

The Kodiak Daily Mirror interviewed AAHP Board member Jobe Bernier, with the focus on the Ascension of Our Lord Russian Orthodox Church in Karluk. A link to the article is here:

On September 9, AAHP President Anne Pollnow was interviewed by Melissa Marconi-Wentzel of KCAW (Raven Radio) in Sitka. Also included were Father Michael Oleksa, and parishioner and fellow preservation advocate Ana Dittmar, to discuss the history and repairs needed for St. Michael’s Cathedral in Sitka. Father Oleksa is currently serving as the interim Priest of St. Michael’s Cathedral until the position can be permanently filled. He has served as a Russian Orthodox priest in Alaska since the 1970s and completed his doctoral degree in 1988 with an emphasis in Native Alaskan History during the Alaska Russian period (1741-1867). For the full interview, check here: http://www.kcaw.org/2016/09/09/st-michaels-listed-top-10-endangered-properties/.

AAHP MEMBERSHIP and/or SPECIAL DONATIONS

Name __________________________________________ Phone ________________________________
Address _________________________________________________________________
City __________________________ State______ Zip ______________

Membership term is 12 consecutive months.

☐ Student $15 ☐ Contributor $50 ☐ Sponsor $250
☐ Individual $25 ☐ Friend $100 ☐ Benefactor $500 & above
☐ Family $40 ☐ Corporate $100
☐ Non-Profit* $45 (*includes federal, state, & municipal agencies) Membership $_____________

I/we wish to make a tax-deductible gift to

• AAHP 10 Most Endangered Historic Properties (grant account) Donation $_____________
• For more giving opportunities, please visit the AAHP website at http://www.aahp-online.net/

(Donations to AAHP are tax deductible, as allowable under IRS regulations.)

Total Enclosed $_____________

I also wish to participate in AAHP activities in the following areas:

☐ Fund Raising ☐ Membership ☐ Education ☐ Legislation ☐ Public Relations ☐ Projects & Issues
Calendar of Upcoming Events

2016

October
8  10 Most Endangered Historic Properties Annual Fundraiser Dinner and Silent Auction
   Anchorage Pioneer Schoolhouse. For reservations, phone 907-929-9870 or
   Visit our registration page at http://www.planetreg.com/10Most

15  Deadline to submit application for 10 Most Endangered Historic Properties Grant for 2016
   For application details, please contact AAHP at 907-929-9870

15  Deadline to submit nomination for Annual Historic Preservation Award
   For nomination details, please visit http://www.aahp-online.net/newsevents.html

November
1  AAHP Annual Meeting
   Pioneer Schoolhouse, Anchorage, 5:30 pm

December
3-4, 10-11  Swedish Holidays at Oscar Anderson House Museum, Anchorage

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DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF ALASKA'S PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC HERITAGE AS MANIFESTED IN ITS BUILDINGS AND SITES