MDAH and AmeriCorps: A Partnership That Gets Things Done!

The focus of this issue is national service members and student volunteers.

MDAH and AmeriCorps is a partnership that gets things done. Getting things done is part of the AmeriCorps pledge (see below). The AmeriCorps National Civilian and Community Corps (NCCC) members based in Vicksburg are comprised of Traditional members serving an eleven state area and FEMA Corps members responding to disasters across the nation. These national service members have been a tremendous boon to MDAH. In this issue, you will see their most recent service at Winterville Mounds Archaeological Park near Greenville and at the Manship House Museum in Jackson. These young members appreciate learning from our MDAH volunteers whether they are enjoying their Mississippi History Tour or working side-by-side with them on a project.

Thanks to you, our MDAH volunteers, we have served thousands of visitors and patrons in our effort to preserve and share our history. We will be counting on you when we open the doors of the 2 Mississippi Museums to the world. Kudos for your service now and in the future!

Our Human Resources director at MDAH, Diane Mattox, often says that we could not open our doors without our MDAH volunteers, and she is correct! We thank you!

Elizabeth Coleman, CVA, Volunteer Services Administrator, MDAH

The AmeriCorps Pledge

I will get things done for America - to make our people safer, smarter, and healthier.
I will bring Americans together to strengthen our communities.
Faced with apathy, I will take action.
Faced with conflict, I will seek common ground.
Faced with adversity, I will persevere.
I will carry this commitment with me this year and beyond.
I am an AmeriCorps member, and I will get things done.

Top: AmeriCorps members devoted three weeks and served more than 600 hours clearing the mounds of nuisance vegetation and building shelves for the Museum area at Winterville Mounds in Greenville.

Bottom: AmeriCorps (FEMA) members working at the Manship House Museum in Jackson. Members dug a trench and buried a drainage conduit, cut out a huge patch of bamboo, painted a section of the perimeter fence, raked, and pruned overgrown vegetation on the grounds.

Save the Date: 2 Mississippi Museums Grand Opening Day is Saturday, Dec. 9!
Test Your Knowledge of Mississippi

1. The French “_________________” were some of the first European women to settle in Mississippi. Usually orphaned or homeless, they were sent to the French colonies with a royal grant of food, money, and clothing kept in a small trunk called a “____________,” hence their name. The French government hoped that the soldiers would marry these young women and settle in the colony.
   A) Satchel Gals/Satchel
   B) Valise Ladies/Valise
   C) Cassette Girls/Cassette
   D) Portmanteau Ladies/Portmanteau

2. Long before civil rights figure Rosa Parks of Alabama refused to give up her bus seat in Montgomery, twenty-two year-old ______________ of Holly Springs refused to give up her train seat. Although she was removed from the train, she later sued the railroad company and won a judgment in 1887 for violations of the Civil Rights Act of 1875. The decision was reversed in the Tennessee Supreme Court, but that only exposed this injustice more. She started a small newspaper named Free Speech and Headlight and began an anti-lynching campaign that attracted worldwide attention.
   A) Ida B. Wells
   B) Fanny Lou Hamer
   C) Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield
   D) Kate Freeman Clark

3. ________________________ of Louisville was appointed by President Franklin Roosevelt as the federal director of work relief for women—the second highest ranking position of a woman in the New Deal structure. Many of the programs that were created under her leadership continue today, such as in-school lunches, home health care, nursery schools for those with low incomes, and delivery systems for social services.
   A) Evelyn Gandy
   B) Hazel Brannon Smith
   C) Helen Carloss
   D) Ellen Sullivan Woodward

Answers are on the last page.
After the flood of 2016, Winterville Mounds needed more help in clearing the mounds and plaza areas. AmeriCorps stationed in Vicksburg devoted three weeks and over 600 hours at Winterville Mounds clearing Mounds B and K and installing shelves in the museum storage area. Upon arriving on April 1, the Winterville Mounds’ staff, volunteers, and community welcomed them with a catfish dinner at the pavilion.

Facilities Maintenance Worker Robert Johnson and volunteers Larry Parker and Paul Hamel assisted in clearing the mounds and plaza areas. Mr. Parker has been volunteering at Winterville Mounds (continued on next page)
MDAH and AmeriCorps: Winterville Mounds
News from Susie Smith, Images courtesy of Mark Howell and Susie Smith

(continued from page 3)

almost ten years and has cleared the mounds and plazas numerous times. He is part of the Southern Traditional Archery Association and loves to show children how to shoot the bow and arrow for Native American Days, Spring Break and Summer Fun Days. Most recently, he has partnered with the 4-H club in archery and is planning to have the state archery tournaments at Winterville.

Mr. Paul Hamel has been with Winterville Mounds for two years and volunteers hundreds of hours consulting, by visiting other historic sites, and attending archaeological meetings to learn more about both archaeology and the Winterville Mounds people. Also, he has assisted and designed Native American symbols and interpretive signage on the pavilion, helped to design a one-mile nature walking trail on the grounds, assisted with the arts and craft in the children’s program, and cut and carried sumach stems from Winterville Mounds to pipe carvers at Pipestone National Monument in Minnesota. Mr. Hamel is also the vice president of the Winterville Mounds Association.

As the volunteer coordinator of Winterville Mounds, I am truly blessed to have volunteers who love to work with me and care about the site by doing whatever it takes to make it great. Thank you all for the hard work you have done.

The Greenville community gathers with the staff and employees of Winterville Mounds to welcome AmeriCorps.
MDAH and AmeriCorps: Manship House Museum
News from Marilynn Jones, Images courtesy of Stacey Everett

*Manship House Museum site director Marilynn Jones was happy to have FEMA Corps members spend Saturday, April 22, serving at the site. They were busy digging a trench, burying a conduit, cutting out patches of bamboo, painting a fence, raking and pruning overgrown vegetation.*

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*AmeriCorps members earn independent service hours by volunteering when not on assignment.*
MDAH and AmeriCorps: Mississippi History Day

A day-long visit to MDAH is an official part of the AmeriCorps (Vicksburg campus) orientation to Mississippi. MDAH volunteers look forward to their visit because it is an opportunity to share our story with these young people who hail from all parts of the country. Members begin their day at Mississippi’s most historical site, the Old Capitol Museum (pictured above). Thanks to the Mississippi Humanities Council Speakers Bureau, members were treated to a Blues presentation by Dr. Brinda Willis.

It was a fun-filled day that started and ended with history. This day included stops at our MDAH sites—the Old Capitol Museum, the State Capitol, the Governor’s Mansion, the Eudora Welty House and Garden, the Manship House Museum—and the Mississippi Heritage Trust site, the Lowry House.

MDAH volunteers always are so supportive of this particular tour. For this visit, we send a special thank you to volunteers Faye Hudgins, Tom Watts, Andi McDaniel, Linda Livingston, Alec Valentine, Lynn Evans, Luran Buchanan, Cindy Lyons, Rachael Packer, and Jake Cameron. We very much appreciate your help!

Left: Our AmeriCorps visitors climb the steps of our State Capitol. They were impressed with our state’s beautiful treasures and enjoyed their day of learning.
MDAH and AmeriCorps: Mississippi History Day

Next stop… the Eudora Welty House and Garden
*
* * * *
Images from site Facebook page.

Then...the Manship House Museum

Manship House Museum director Marilynn Jones (right) opens the site for special events and by appointment.
MDAH and AmeriCorps: Mississippi History Day

And...the Lowry House

A special thank you to Todd Sanders for his presentations to AmeriCorps on architectural history at the Governor’s Mansion.

Erica Speed, volunteer with the Mississippi Heritage Trust, hosted a preservation tour for AmeriCorps members. Ruins of Windsor posters were a wonderful takeaway for the members. Thank you, Erica!!!

Big thanks to David Abbott for his presentations on archaeology at the Manship House Museum!

Image courtesy of Stacey Everett

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MDAH Volunteer Steve Kelly approached Visitor Services with his idea of producing pin maps of Mississippi, the United States, and the world to illustrate all of the towns, states, and countries from where our guests have travelled to tour the Mississippi State Capitol.

Steve reviewed the guest books from August 2012, when the Visitor Services program began, through March 2017, and placed pins onto maps showing the hometowns of our visitors.

Within the first seven months, Visitor Services yielded guests from all 50 states and Puerto Rico, indicating 445 out-of-state towns; 115 Mississippi towns (55 of 82 counties); and 41 foreign countries.

Almost five years later the count showed visitors not only came from all 50 states and Puerto Rico but also from Washington D.C. Of the 2,256 out-of-state towns represented, most came from 203 towns in California. Within Mississippi, 268 towns (80 of 82 counties) were represented.

International guests came from 80 countries including Estonia, Liechtenstein, Mauritius, Rwanda, and Uzbekistan. Of the 553 towns within those 80 countries, 89 were in the United Kingdom.

Come to the Volunteer Desk on the first floor of the Capitol to see the maps showing the hometowns of our visitors. Thanks to MDAH Volunteer Steve Kelly for his idea of the pin maps, for his creating them, and for his determination in providing us with this interesting information.

Mississippi Mound Trail

Mississippi lays claim to some of the densest concentrations of prehistoric archaeological sites of any state, and none of these sites are more striking than the massive earthen mounds that dot the landscape.

To learn more, visit [http://www.trails.mdah.ms.gov/mmt/index.html](http://www.trails.mdah.ms.gov/mmt/index.html)
Mississippi State Capitol:
National Historic Landmark Designation Ceremony
News from Kathy Broom, Images courtesy of Arnold Lindsay, Mississippi Senate and Clancy Smith, Mississippi House of Representatives

From the rotunda of the Mississippi State Capitol on May 4, 2017, in the presence of descendents of former Governor A.H. Longino, who was governor while the Capitol was built and chairman of the State House Commission, the leadership of the Legislature welcomed all who came to celebrate the designation of the Capitol as a National Historic Landmark.

Designated by the United States Department of the Interior in the fall of 2016, the Mississippi State Capitol is one of approximately 2,500 historic sites with this distinction.

The text on the plaque reads:

Mississippi State Capitol
has been designated a
National Historic Landmark

This site possesses national significance as an exceptional example of the Beaux Arts style, vividly illustrating the nationwide spread of academic classical revival architecture in the early 20th century. It is notable among state capitols for its unity of design and construction, having been built by a single general contractor, under the direction of a single architect, within a single three-year program of construction led by Governor A.H. Longino.

2016
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Above Top Right: Prior to the presentation of the National Historic Landmark plaque, Natchez National Historical Park Superintendent Kathleen Bond speaks about the significance of the Capitol’s architecture, as Speaker Pro Tempore Greg Snowden, Speaker Philip Gunn, Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves, Governor Phil Bryant, and President Pro Tempore Terry Burton share in the admiration of this honor.
Mississippi State Capitol: National Historic Landmark Designation Ceremony

News from Kathy Broom, Images courtesy of Arnold Lindsay, Mississippi Senate and Clancy Smith, Mississippi House of Representatives

Left: MDAH Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Ken P’Pool; MDAH Chief Architectural Historian Jennifer Baughn; Capitol Architect Lawson Newman with WFT Architects, P.A.; Consultant Richard Cawthon, and MDAH Capitol Curator Brenda Davis proudly stand by the plaque. This team worked to secure the designation of the Capitol as a National Historic Landmark.

Right: In honor of their ancestor, Governor Andrew Houston Longino, family members were present to hear of his momentous contribution in making certain this Capitol was designed and constructed with fortitude for the future of Mississippi.
Mississippi College student Sarah Hogue was a spring semester intern in the Archives and Records Services Division. Her internship consisted of researching and compiling a list of manuscript collections that contained significant materials about and by women in Mississippi. She utilized the valuable secondary sources in the Public Reading Room to familiarize herself with the biographies of noteworthy Mississippians.

Sarah delved into the online catalog to locate collections, viewed them in the Archival Reading Room, and determined which collections had significant content about women in Mississippi. Selected manuscript collections include the Emma Balfour Civil War Diary Transcript, the Lucy Somerville Howorth Papers, the Elizabeth Magruder Letters, the Belle Strickland Diary, and the Margaret Wilson Diary, among others. This list of collections will serve as a launch pad for patrons to research this particular subject and will soon be available upon request.

Hello! My name is Julie Nelson, and I’m from Bunker Hill, Illinois (a small farming town east of St. Louis). I started at the Old Capitol in December. So far, I have not only had the pleasure of working with the faithful existing volunteers, but I’ve also had the chance to learn together with some new members of the team.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank everyone I’ve met so far for being so incredibly welcoming and for your obvious commitment, not only to the Old Capitol, but also to the other MDAH sites you clearly hold so dear.

I look forward to meeting and continuing to spend more time with such special people!

Julie Nelson
Historian/Volunteer Coordinator
Old Capitol Museum

* * * * *
Check out the Old Capitol Museum Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/Old-Capitol-Museum-124269894286616/

* * * * *
Museum Division Collections

News and Image from Meg Cooke

Nathan accepts his award as “Champion Boxer” after helping to reorganize all of the boxes behind him.

The collections team welcomed intern Nathan Gatlin this spring semester. Nathan is a sophomore from Meridian and is currently pursuing a double major in history and political science at Millsaps College.

Nathan played an integral role in sorting and reorganizing artifacts in preparation for their relocation into the new museum complex. He also assisted exhibits staff with installations and participated in the annual Eudora Welty House “deep clean.” All of these tasks required patience and motivation, which Nathan continually demonstrated (and with a smile on, to boot!).

During his last week at MDAH, Nathan said his favorite artifact was a souvenir bottle of red clay from the Neshoba County Fair, but admitted that he was moderately unsettled by some of the doll faces in the collection. Nathan has been an invaluable help during this important time with the Museum Division. He set a high standard for our future interns, and we appreciate all of his hard work. We wish Nathan the very best in his future endeavors.

Mississippi Historical Society

Thanks to MDAH volunteer Haley Smith for her excellent organization of the Mississippi Historical Society files! Haley has a B.A. in anthropology with a minor in history from the University of Mississippi and a M.A. in anthropology from Vanderbilt University. Haley also volunteers at the State Capitol.

Note: The Mississippi Historical Society website has a page with links to many resources—from the Timeline of Mississippi history—to the Mississippi Historical Markers—to the Mississippi Archaeological Trails website. Follow the link below to access these great resources: http://www.mississippihistory.org/resources.html

Thank you, Haley!
Emma McRaney interned with the Programs and Communication Division from January to May 2017. Having Emma work with us was nothing short of a joy. She handled every new task with grace and finesse.

She is a talented manager of her time, and was able to go far above and beyond what is expected of an intern. A skilled researcher, Emma worked on the Explore Mississippi section of our forthcoming website, conducted extensive preparations for our Summer Teachers School, and created a list of every individual whose name will appear in the exhibit text of the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum. She proved so invaluable to our Summer Teachers School process that she is now working on contract as an Education Assistant through late June. In May, Emma graduated from Millsaps College with a degree in history. I know we in Programs and Communication remain excited to see what Emma will do next, and we are fortunate and thankful for the time she has given to us.

Joey Brown interned with the Programs and Communication Division from January to May 2017. As Joey's supervisor, I learned quickly that he is both intelligent and flexible—two highly sought-after attributes here at MDAH.

There is no task too big or too small for Joey and he brings the same energy and thoughtfulness to the table regardless of the scope of the project. Joey began this semester by creating a detailed spreadsheet for the Museum of Mississippi History. Joey then worked to make our public programming more accessible online by curating past audio recordings of our weekly History Is Lunch speaker series. Joey also assisted in the mail-out of our seasonal newsletter, spoke with welcome centers across the state to access their brochure needs, created a database of museums across the state, and helped format information from MDAH sites for our website calendar. In May, Joey graduated from Mississippi College with a degree in history and with much acclaim from one of his professors, Missy Jones. Joey is still assisting our talented volunteer coordinator, Elizabeth Coleman, to recruit more students from his alma mater. The entire Programs and Communication Division is very thankful for Joey's marvelous efforts for these past months, and we look forward to his next endeavors.
Jeremy Anderson volunteered with the Programs and Communications Division from March to April 2017. During this time, Jeremy helped research the African American members of the 1874-75 Mississippi State Legislature. He put his research into a useful database that identifies the names of the members, the counties they represented, and whether or not information on them can be found in our State Archives.

He also helped update our MDAH newsletter mailing list. Jeremy is very astute and pays high attention to detail which transfers over to his academic career. Jeremy recently graduated this May, summa cum laude with a B.S. in mass communications, from Jackson State University. He was also selected to be a 2017 Teach For America corps member, where he will be serving the state of Arkansas.

Jeremy has high goals set in the sphere of education and plans to utilize his two years in Teach For America to springboard his career.

We wish Jeremy well as he begins serving low-income communities as an educator. His ability to connect with people and his high standards will serve his students well.

Thank you, Jeremy!
Governor’s Mansion: The Voyage of Life Photographed

News from Megan Bankston

* * * * *

The four painting series, The Voyage of Life, hanging in the Rose Parlors of the Governor’s Mansion were recently photographed by professional photographer Gib Ford of Gil Ford Photography. Dr. Paul Schweizer, Director Emeritus of the Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute in Utica, New York, is an expert on Thomas Cole’s work and requested that photographs be made of our copies for an upcoming presentation on the works at the Natchez Antiques Forum to be held in Natchez in November. We are so thankful for Dr. Schweizer’s sponsorship and the opportunity to have these beautiful photographs made for the Mansion’s future use.

Born in England in 1801, Thomas Cole later moved to America and fell in love with the landscape of Pennsylvania and Ohio. As a self-taught artist, Cole believed in bringing moral and religious meaning to his paintings. His Voyage of Life series traces the journey of an archetypal hero along the “River of Life.”

All four paintings are on display at the Governor’s Mansion and available for viewing during regular tour hours (Tuesday-Friday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.).

* * * * *
Mississippi Governor’s Mansion: Carpet Repaired

News and Images from Megan Bankston

Jimmie Lyles Custom Rug Works repaired damaged carpet in the Back Rose Parlor of the Mississippi Governor’s Mansion. The old padding underneath the carpet, installed in the 1970s, is made of horse hair. This padding creates a barrier between the carpet and the Mansion’s original 1840s heart pine wood flooring. Their technician did a beautiful job, and there is no evidence of the replacement. The Mansion is looking good for 175 years old!
Mississippi History Store News: Sneak Peek!

News and Image from Rebecca Jones

Take a look at this photo of the new Mississippi Museum Store as it begins to take shape with the nicely appointed shelves and fixtures. Notice the beautiful wood accent wall behind the point of sale area. This rich wooded accent is also located at the front of the store near both sides of the entrance as well as both sides of the large front window. You can visit the store and all the wonderful Mississippi books and merchandise when we open on December 9. I hope to see you then!

Have you seen the new Eudora Welty t-shirt? It’s Ms. Welty’s unique and unmistakable cursive signature simply presented on a white t-shirt. Stop by the Eudora Welty House and Garden, see what’s blooming in the garden and treat yourself to a new t-shirt for summer. It’s a cool classic.

Shop and Support! Your purchases at these MDAH historic sites contribute to their preservation and their programs. We thank you for your continued support and patronage.

Please contact Rebecca Jones at storemanager@mdah.ms.gov or leave a message at 601-576-6921 if you have questions regarding the Mississippi Museum Store.

Mark your calendar! The new Mississippi Museum Store will open on Saturday, December 9, 2017! YAY!!!

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Two Mississippi Museums

The Museum of Mississippi History and the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum will open their doors to the public on Saturday, December 9, 2017. If you or your friends would like to be part of this exciting new adventure, please let me know so that I can contact you when we “roll out” the volunteer program later in the year. MDAH volunteers are the very BEST! Contact: Elizabeth Coleman at ecoleman@mdah.ms.gov or 601.576.6985.
Many of our MDAH sites are hosting lots of summer fun! From Storytime on the Porch of the Eudora Welty House to numerous summer camps, as well as a tremendous History Is Lunch lineup, you are sure to have many events from which to choose. For quick access to a listing of these events, please follow the links below.

**MDAH Event Calendar**
http://www.mdah.ms.gov/new/category/events-category/

**History is Lunch**
http://www.mdah.ms.gov/new/category/events-category/history-is-lunch/

**Eudora Welty House and Garden**
http://www.mdah.ms.gov/new/category/events-category/eudora-welty-house/

**Grand Village of the Natchez Indians**
http://www.mdah.ms.gov/new/category/events-category/grand-village-of-natchez-indians/

**Historic Jefferson College**
http://www.mdah.ms.gov/new/category/events-category/historic-jefferson-college/

**Winterville Mounds Archaeological Park and Museum**
http://www.mdah.ms.gov/new/category/events-category/winterville-mounds/

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**To see the MDAH Calendar of Events**
Lots to do, people to see, places to go…
Click the link below.
http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/category/events-category/

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**MDAH Volunteer Newsletter**
Elizabeth Coleman, editor

* * *

Contents © 2017
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Katie Blount, director

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**Answers**
Test Your Knowledge of Mississippi

1. C) Cassette Girls/Cassette
2. A) Ida B. Wells
3. D) Ellen Sullivan Woodward

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The Mississippi Department of Archives and History was founded in 1902 and is the second-oldest state department of archives and history in the country. The mission of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History is to collect, preserve, protect, research, and interpret the state’s rich and diverse historic resources and to promote the appreciation and use of those resources.