

Understand the past.
Engage in the present.
Create a better tomorrow.

Historical Society of Pennsylvania's 2011 Annual

Report



Accessible



A letter from the president:

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania embraces four core values—to be **accessible**, **innovative**, **inclusive**, and **collaborative**. During the 2010/11 fiscal year, we have embarked on a number of projects with those values in mind. In this report, you'll learn about our new Digital Library, where visitors can view more than 28,000 digitized images from HSP's collections. More people than ever before can now view our historic documents using this online database. HSP is also working to improve the accessibility of our 20th-century collections and our resources for teachers and students.

This year, we shared our collection in new and unexpected ways. One project involved the creation of a "musical finding aid," as local artists composed music inspired by an archival collection. Through our programs and publications, we highlighted a wide range of cultures, time periods, and topics. An edition of *Pennsylvania Legacies* examined African Americans and civil rights, and a program last September celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month. We partnered with dozens of local organizations, most notably with WHYY-FM to produce a history radio program and with Dilworth Paxson LLP to organize an exhibit about former Philadelphia mayor Richardson Dilworth.

In addition to these new initiatives, HSP also focused on strengthening our library and archive. This fiscal year, more than 4,400 researchers visited our library on Locust Street and another 3,800 used our research and reference-by-mail services. Our staff processed 48 collections, totaling 939 linear feet, including the papers of Salmon P. Chase, former governor of Ohio and U.S. Supreme Court chief justice. HSP continues to add to its archives; this fiscal year we accepted 56 new collections or additions to existing ones. With the help of



TRUE TO THE
STARS & STRIPES.

Thousands of HSP's Civil War-related documents have been digitized and are available online through the new Digital Library.



In October, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission awarded HSP a historical marker. Pictured from left: Commissioner of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Flora L. Becker; Pennsylvania State Senator and HSP Councilor Larry Farnese; Chairman of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Wayne Spilove; Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter; and President and CEO of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania Kim Sajet.

interns and volunteers, the conservation staff carefully preserved 874 items, among them the diaries of 18th-century Philadelphia chemist Christopher Marshall and 40 early prints of American artist Benjamin West. We also began conserving and digitizing 600 cased photographs (pictured on cover).

HSP is grateful for the support of our generous donors and members, who make this important work possible. With your help, we will continue to inspire people and organizations to create a better future through historical understanding.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Kim Sajet".

Kim Sajet
President and CEO



8,331

SUBSCRIBERS TO HSP'S
E-MAIL NEWSLETTER

538,499

VISITS TO
WWW.HSP.ORG

4,445

VISITORS TO
THE LIBRARY

More than 28,000 items from HSP's collections have been digitized and posted online.

Launched this year, HSP's Digital Library includes a growing number of photographs, maps, artwork, letters, diaries, and ephemera, as well as archived video and audio records. Many of the items in the Digital Library come from the Society's Civil War-related collections. The digitization of these materials was made possible by the generous support from the Barra Foundation, Robert McNeil Jr., Collin Farquhar McNeil, The McLean Contributionship, and the Raab Collection. Now HSP embarks on the second phase of this innovative project. The Society has secured funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Richard Lounsbery Foundation, Collin Farquhar McNeil, and John and Carol Asher to digitize an additional 18,000 images from the Society's immigration and ethnic history collections.



HSP is processing 14 of its 20th-century collections, including the papers of Albert M. Greenfield (pictured above).

HSP worked to improve the accessibility and visibility of our 20th-century collections.

This fiscal year, HSP launched two projects to bring attention to our more recent history. With funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, HSP began work to process and preserve 14 post-Civil War collections that document civic engagement in Philadelphia and the United States across more than 120 years. Another project will establish the Albert M.

Greenfield Center for 20th-Century History, funded by the Albert M. Greenfield Foundation. HSP staff will create an online guide to the Society's 20th-century collections and will develop a new digital history project for educators and students. The project will tell the story of the early years of the Great Depression and the December 1930 failure of Bankers Trust Company.

HSP partnered with WHYY-FM to produce a history radio show.

The biweekly broadcast called "That's History" takes an event, issue, or person in the news, and looks back into history for echoes, parallels, roots, and lessons. The



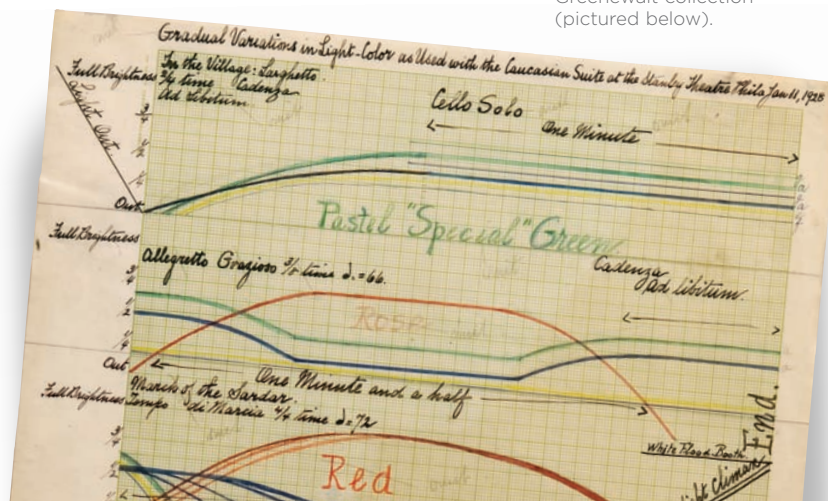
HSP staff are working to digitize 18,000 images from the Society's immigration and ethnic history collections.

segment, featuring one of HSP's historians, Jonathan Zimmerman, airs on Tuesday nights as part of the station's *NewsWorks Tonight* radio show. "That's History" has examined serious topics about the national debt and the legacies of slavery, as well as light-hearted ones such as the history of summer vacations.

Local artists interpreted an HSP collection in a creative new way—through music.

The focus of this project was the collection of Mary Elizabeth Hallock Greenewalt, an eccentric inventor and musician who lived in Philadelphia in the early 1900s. Five artists composed original music inspired by sections of the Greenewalt collection's written finding aid. Their compositions were posted on HSP's website and the artists presented their work at a free event at HSP in January. The project was funded by The Pew Center for Arts and Heritage, through the Heritage Philadelphia Program, and the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, the Federal-State Partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Artists created a "musical finding aid" inspired by historic documents from the Mary Elizabeth Hallock Greenewalt collection (pictured below).



Innovative

3,843

USED HSP'S RESEARCH AND
REFERENCE-BY-MAIL SERVICE

4,999

PEOPLE ATTENDED
EVENTS

874

ITEMS PRESERVED IN
CONSERVATION LAB

Inclusive

HSP supported educators through professional development and National History Day. In

July, the Path to Freedom Teacher Institute, coordinated by the Civil War History Consortium, provided Pennsylvania teachers with a free week-long immersion course on African American life in antebellum America, the abolition movement, the Civil War, and Reconstruction.* In addition, HSP hosted several teacher workshops and library orientations throughout the year and worked with local institutions to present a sold-out educators' workshop on William Penn's Vision for Philadelphia. HSP staff assisted local high school students with their projects for the research-based competition National History Day, and many students who researched at HSP won top awards. Our new Senior Director of Programs and Services, Beth Twiss Houting, has reinforced HSP's commitment to supporting teachers and students by creating an online educator newsletter and a Teachers Advisory Group.

A record number of people read articles in HSP's magazine and scholarly journal. About

5,500 people each month—more than 65,000 a year—viewed the articles on JSTOR, an online repository of scholarly journal articles. HSP published two issues of the illustrated history magazine *Pennsylvania Legacies* this fiscal year. November's issue* examined African Americans and civil rights in Pennsylvania, while May's issue, made possible by a donation from Ranney R. Moran, looked at the history of financial panics and economic depressions. HSP published four issues of the scholarly journal the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*.

*This project has been financed in part with Federal funds from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, through the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's Preserving and Interpreting African American Heritage in Pennsylvania grant.



HSP published two editions of *Pennsylvania Legacies* and four issues of the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*.

HSP added two new fellowships, bringing the total number to 21. These scholars conducted

research in our library on a wide range of topics, including British theater, African American literature, and Scottish imperialism. Nineteen of the fellows were part of a program organized jointly with the Library Company of Philadelphia, while the other two Balch fellowships in immigrant and ethnic history and/or 20th-century history were funded independently by HSP. HSP thanks Dr. Dorothy J. del Bueno for her support of this fellowship program. The newly added fellowships were made possible by an endowment from the Albert M. Greenfield Foundation and Esther Ann McFarland in memory of Judge William Lewis.

The public visited HSP to see original documents and historic national treasures. This

fiscal year, HSP organized two rare document display days at our library. In September, to coincide with Constitution Day, HSP displayed six versions of the U.S. Constitution from our collection, including the earliest surviving draft handwritten by Constitutional Convention delegate James Wilson. In April, on the anniversary of the start of the Civil War, HSP filled its conference room with original letters written by Confederate and Union generals, issues of the newspaper *Fourney's War Press*, diaries, posters, and watercolors.

Local students visited HSP to research for their National History Day projects.





Susan Eisenhower (center) was this year's recipient of the Founder's Award, and Howard H. Lewis (left) was the Heritage Award honoree. The event was chaired by Dorothy Mather Ix (right).



Susan Eisenhower and Howard H. Lewis were honored at our annual Founder's Award dinner. Ms. Eisenhower, president of the Eisenhower Group, Inc., chairman emeritus of the Eisenhower Institute, and granddaughter of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, received the Society's prestigious Founder's Award. The Heritage Award went to Mr. Lewis, an attorney with Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhoads, past president and chair of HSP's Board of Councilors, and currently a member of the Executive Committee. The awards were presented April 28 at the historic estate of Ardrossan in Villanova. Guests enjoyed a dinner menu inspired by President Eisenhower's favorite recipes. The event for 235 guests, chaired by Dorothy Mather Ix, raised more than \$165,000 for the Society.

HSP raised funds to preserve the legacy of former Philadelphia Mayor Richardson Dilworth. With the support of Dilworth Paxson LLP, the Annenberg Foundation, and other generous donors, HSP organized an exhibit about Richardson Dilworth, a charismatic politician, lawyer, and reformer who served as mayor of Philadelphia from 1956 to 1962. On March 15, the Society celebrated the opening of the exhibit with an event that raised more than \$100,000. The funds will be used to endow a research fellowship, create teacher workshops, preserve the Dilworth Papers held at the Historical Society, and publish an edition of HSP's history magazine, *Pennsylvania Legacies*, on political reform.

HSP partnered with Dilworth Paxson LLP to raise funds to preserve the legacy of former Philadelphia Mayor Richardson Dilworth. From left: Bill Green, Philadelphia City Councilman and HSP Board of Councilors member; Joseph H. Jacovini, chairman of Dilworth Paxson LLP; Deborah Dilworth Bishop, HSP Board of Councilors; Stephen J. Harmelin, partner at Dilworth Paxson LLP; Bruce Fenton, chairman of HSP Board of Councilors; and Kim Sajet, president and CEO of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

HSP partnered with dozens of local museums, cultural institutions, media, and corporations to create exciting events and opportunities for our members and visitors. During Hispanic Heritage month, HSP partnered with the newspaper *Al Día*, Raíces Culturales Latinoamericanas, and El Caféito to host a lecture and dance performance. In June, HSP worked with Southwest Airlines to bring Dr. William Pickens III to HSP to speak about his African American ancestry. Other event partners included the Free Library of Philadelphia, the Philadelphia History Museum, Arden Theatre Company, the Library Company of Philadelphia, the Union League of Philadelphia, and Bartram's Garden. This year, HSP continued its partnership with the *Encyclopedia of Greater Philadelphia*, which launched a series of roundtable discussions focused on Philadelphia's famous slogans. HSP is also working to provide support and resources to small history and heritage organizations all over Southeastern Pennsylvania through its History Affiliates program. During this year's planning process, funded by the Barra Foundation, HSP held a conference for local organizations and conducted a formal needs survey.

Collaborative

39

FINDING AIDS
POSTED ONLINE

1,444

FACEBOOK
FANS

28,647

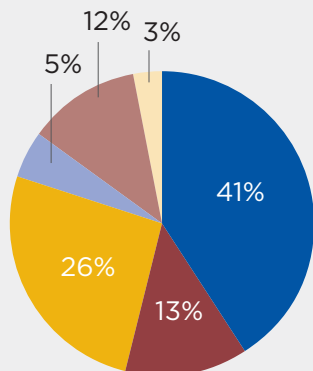
ITEMS IN HSP'S
DIGITAL LIBRARY

48

COLLECTIONS
PROCESSED

Annual Operating Revenue & Expenses

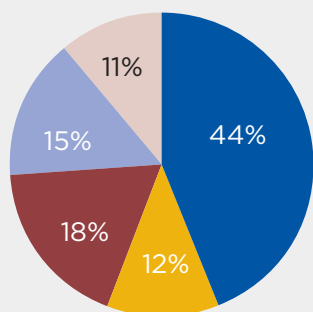
REVENUE



Income from Investments	41%
Contributions	13%
Grants for Special Projects	26%
Founders Award Dinner	5%
Earned Income	12%
Membership	3%

TOTAL REVENUE \$3,165,381

EXPENSES



Library	44%
Education and Special Projects	12%
Occupancy	18%
Administrative	15%
Development	11%

TOTAL EXPENSES \$3,072,848

For a copy of HSP's audited financial statements, please contact mhairston@hsp.org.

With appreciation

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a better future through historical understanding.