



THE PHILADELPHIA WORLD HERITAGE QUARTERLY

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Online Heritage Education Resource Center

This month we officially launched the online heritage education platform, LearnPhillyHeritage.org. This website offers low-cost and free heritage educational resources, specifically focused on the Philadelphia region. The site will provide teachers and parents with the tools they need to develop students' awareness of our city's rich past and global significance.

GPA conducted a Teacher Needs Assessment and found that despite the wealth of educational opportunities

available in this region, many teachers have difficulty finding and accessing resources that are relevant and affordable. The website was developed to address this need.

We celebrated the launch on Nov 8th by hosting a lunch conversation about heritage education as a part of the city-wide [On the Table Philly](#) program. Organized by the Philadelphia Foundation and the Knight Foundation, this annual program brings people together over a meal to have conversations about the issues and opportunities that face our city.

Looking ahead, we plan to expand the website to include a platform for community engagement in the World Heritage City Project. The website will contain the stories collected in our new "Heritage Storytelling" Program and will provide opportunities to engage with residents of other World Heritage Cities.





Preserving & Celebrating Historical & Cultural Assets

On Sep 20th, the [Mayor's Historic Preservation Task Force](#) had its final public meeting. The meeting attracted between 100-150 people and gave the impression of the amount of public energy dedicated to Philadelphia's efforts in preserving historic buildings, structures, and landmarks. There were several stations where people could record their thoughts regarding incentives and historic preservation challenges.

The event was capped off by comments, including from Mayor Kenney about Philadelphia's transition from a "city in decline to a city that is growing." Other attendees spoke about Philadelphia's desire to "catch up with other cities" in preserving historic sites/buildings. For example, other cities have preserved up to 4% of their historic sites, compared to Philadelphia's 2%. The message was clear at the meeting that major efforts are still needed.

Draft copies of PennPraxis' [Neighborhood Preservation Toolkit](#) were also made available. This Toolkit was created in consultation with 21 neighborhoods across the city. The final draft will be released and available from [PennPraxis](#) by the end of the year.

The upcoming season for the [Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia](#) will be an exciting one! The theme for the 2018-2019 season will be "Migrations." Beginning in October with Africa and ending the season with the Middle East in May, each continent will be represented with three prestigious musical names. Africa will be represented by music from Jegede, Schubert, and Arriaga. The European segment of the series (February 24-25) will feature the works of George Frederick Handel, Antonio Vivaldi, and Johann Sebastian Bach.

The [Cultural Fabric of Philadelphia](#) photo book was finally debuted on September 20th with remarks by Mayor Kenney and the photographer, Dave Lakatos at a special exhibit of selected photography from the book, which was on display at City Hall. The event celebrated the communities represented in the book and offered a wonderful opportunity to bring these communities together.

The book is a high-quality photography book about Philly's immigrant communities profiling who they are in their own words. The goal of the project is to increase awareness and understanding of the city's immigrant communities. Philadelphia has been and continues to be an epicenter of vast and diverse cultures dating back to the influx of immigrants from

Europe, Africa, and Asia during the mid-nineteenth century when Philadelphia was considered the "Workshop of the World."

The book is volume one in a series and highlights the Chinese, Dominican, German, Indonesian, Liberian and Vietnamese communities. The book is now [available for purchase](#). The next volume is already in development and will feature the Mexican, Ukrainian, Indian, Jamaican and Haitian communities.



Educating Global Kids with Roots

On Aug 9th, GPA co-hosted a teacher workshop with [PAFA](#) exploring the current exhibition [Rina Banerjee: Make Me a Summary of the World](#). Banerjee is known for her large-scale sculptures and installations made from

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The 2018 World Heritage City Celebration

On September 13th, Global Philadelphia Association hosted its third annual World Heritage City Celebration at the Crystal Tea Ballroom in Center City Philadelphia.



More than 500 guests attended, representing GPA members from more than 200 organizations, as well as our many global partners throughout the region. Live performances during the event entertained guests, and included dancers from the [Philadelphia Argentine Tango School](#) and the [Philadelphia Suns Lion Dance](#) troupe, music from Caribbean and Latin music band, Raices Boricuas, and a drums, percussion, and didgeridoo performance by Text Rich and Lava.



Attendees were welcomed by GPA Executive Director Zabeth Teelucksingh, followed by greetings from the evening's celebration co-chairs, John Fry, president, Drexel University, and Dianne Semingson, president, DLS International. City Representative Sheila Hess recognized our visiting international guests Denis Ricard, Secretary General of the Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC); Israel Nitzan, Deputy Consul General of the Consulate General of Israel; Dr. Manuel Monteiro de Pina, Mayor of Cidade Velha, Cape Verde; and Mrs. Palma Costi, Councilor and Minister for Economic Development, from Regione Emilia-Romagna, Italy. John F. Smith, III, GPA Board Chair provided a comprehensive update on the [World Heritage City Project](#).

Michael Smerconish, SiriusXM and CNN host, was presented with the Distinguished Journalism Award and delivered the evening's keynote address. Mr. Smerconish spoke about his longtime connection to Philadelphia and his exploration of the city through his various writings. Smerconish commented in his column on [Philly.com](#) on the day after our dinner, "We are a region of diverse and unique neighbors who reside in a collection of urban neighborhoods and surrounding suburbs...deep down we know we have a good thing going here." ([Click here](#) to read the full article.)

Thank you to all who attended and to all of our World Heritage City Project sponsors!

Save the date for the 2019 World Heritage Celebration on September 5, 2019.

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materials sourced throughout the world. The teachers used a framework of World Heritage, and Philadelphia as a World Heritage City, as a foundation to learn about the artist's role in examining global topics.

In addition to the PAFA workshop, GPA Education Consultant Sarah Sharp made several presentations introducing various audiences to educational approaches to understanding World Heritage in Philadelphia. She presented to homeschooling families and students at the [Philadelphia Museum of Art](#) and the [Penn Museum](#). She also presented to PHENND's VISTA volunteers and educators and at [Global Education Motivators'](#) international student camp.

GPA participated in several educational festivals and fairs this fall. We had a table at the [OACCE's annual Arts Education Fair](#) at the Kimmel Center; we conducted "Heritage Storytelling" activities for kids at the first annual MightyFest by [Mighty Writers](#); and we had our "Heritage Storytelling" photo booth at the [Penn Museum's annual Festival for International Students](#).

Finally, GPA had a presence at two education conferences this fall. GPA World Heritage Coordinator Melissa Stevens

presented on the new [LearnPhillyHeritage.org](#) website at the [Pennsylvania Council for International Education](#) annual conference in Pittsburgh in Oct. GPA was also a promotional partner for the [Global Interdependence Center's](#) conference "The Roles of Higher Education in Competitiveness and Global Productivity" in Oct.



Building WHC Awareness & Ownership

A rapturous crowd along with Mayor Kenney gathered to see the final match of the 3rd Annual [Philadelphia International Unity Cup](#). Liberia, the defending 2017 Champion, played valiantly against the 2016 Champion, the Ivory Coast. The match was decided in overtime when

Liberia scored the winning goal to end the match 4-3.

However, the message of the Unity Cup is about more than winning trophies, and the championship day included a naturalization ceremony and recognition of the people and sponsors such as GOYA who continue to make the Unity Cup possible. The purpose of the Unity Cup is to promote a sense of national origin pride, but more importantly to promote unity through a sport that is played and beloved by many countries and cultures.

Every September, the [Office of Immigrant Affairs](#), in partnership with community organizations, hosts events here in Philadelphia to participate in Welcoming America's national [Welcoming Week](#). Welcoming Week builds



common ground in our communities and celebrates how Philadelphia is an open, friendly, and welcoming environment for immigrants, refugees, and people of all backgrounds. The week's activities and events provide US and foreign-born residents an opportunity to explore other cultures and to develop a deeper appreciation for one another.

This year, more than 30 community partners participated in Welcoming Week. They included local restaurant owners who joined together to support Puentes De Salud, a nonprofit clinic serving the Latino immigrant community in South Philadelphia. GPA held a World Heritage focused Welcoming Week event at the [Free Library](#) called "Immigrants in Books and Film." Organized by GPA Community Heritage Coordinator Gigi McGraw, the event featured excerpts from popular novels and film clips dealing with immigration and a lively discussion among participants around the themes and topics revealed.

GPA is currently developing a campaign to grow [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) awareness and commitment in Philadelphia. The United Nations introduced the 17 SDGs in 2015 to provide a framework for how countries,

cities, and communities can work towards a more peaceful and prosperous world. They range from ensuring affordable and clean energy supplies, to reducing inequalities, to taking action on climate change.

To promote SDGs awareness and engagement in Philly, GPA brought together 14 young professionals at Clarkville in West Philly for a special SDGs Pitch Night event on Oct 20th. The event was part of [Young Involved Philadelphia's](#) (YiP) annual State of Young Philly (SOYP) program, which saw a range of civic engagement events take place across the city. GPA also participated at YIP's annual Civic Engagement Fair at [WHYY](#) on the opening night of SOYP.

The winning pitch came from Helene Brennan, a civic engineer. With the goal of gender equality in mind, Helene presented an idea for a networking event that brings together high school girls and female leaders from across a range of sectors. The aim would be to inspire girls to pursue careers they might not otherwise have realized were open to them.

On Sep 26th, the new [Independence Visitor Center](#) was celebrated with a grand reveal party. The purpose of the center is welcome all of those who are touring

Philadelphia and to provide interactive resources to make their experience in Philadelphia a memorable one.



In Oct, GPA profiled the [Historic Moravian district of Bethlehem, PA](#), which is on the US Tentative List for eventual nomination as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Bethlehem was originally built by Moravian settlers from Europe, who structured their new home according to their principles of equality and community. A National Historic Landmark, Bethlehem's Historic Moravian district still plays a day-to-day role as part of a living community.

Charlene Donchez-Mowers, President of Historic Bethlehem Museums and Sites, which cares for the city's heritage, says that Bethlehem being awarded UNESCO World Heritage Site status would be "an amazing opportunity to welcome visitors from all over the world into our historic structures and our living community."



Extending Philadelphia's Global Reach

On Aug 6th, the [Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians](#) hosted the “Guatemala Business Acceleration Program Launch Ceremony.” The event featured speakers including GPA Executive Director Zabeth Teelucksingh and offered the chance for attendees to meet companies from Guatemala and learn about market opportunities in Central America.

[Solidarity Day of World Heritage Cities](#) is held annually on Sep 8th. Every year, Philadelphia celebrates at the Philadelphia World Heritage City Celebration, which was held at the Crystal Tea Room on Sep 13th this year.

The second American city to receive the designation of “World Heritage City”, the city of [San Antonio](#), also celebrated Solidarity Day with their World Heritage Festival. The World Heritage Festival is an annual city-wide program of events in San Antonio celebrating and promoting the San Antonio Missions, a UNESCO World Heritage site. The Festival is a five-day celebration spread throughout the five San Antonio Missions and surrounding area and has something for everyone, while providing funding for nonprofit



organizations and projects that preserve, maintain, promote, and connect. Their next World Heritage Festival will take place in September 2019.

In late Oct, Zabeth Teelucksingh, Executive Director of the Global Philadelphia Association along with over 100 other global leaders of Philadelphia, attended the Economy League’s [Greater Philadelphia League of Economy Exchange](#) (GPLEX). This year’s meeting took place not in Philadelphia, but in the beautiful city of Seattle, WA. GPLEX provided attendees opportunities to meet with and learn from key business, civic, and political leaders from Philadelphia and Seattle and to discuss how philanthropy and government and business and labor work together to tackle big challenges like homelessness, hyper-gentrification, and inadequate infrastructure.

From the [Philadelphia International Airport](#), American Airlines has announced new seasonal flights open to [new destinations](#) to Berlin, Germany, Bologna, Italy, Dubrovnik, Croatia and Edinburgh, Scotland for 2019! With the addition of these new flights, the total of nonstop flights to European capital cities is now 19! Chellie Cameron said that these new flights are great news for the region and also for the connecting passenger base of these cities.

Key Upcoming Events

Dec 10 GPA Annual Luncheon and Globy Awards

Jan 21 MLK Day of Service

Mar 25-26 Diversity and Inclusion Conference

Apr 18 International Day of Monuments and Sites

May 24 4th Annual Philadelphia World Heritage Day