

# Department of Cultural Resources

## Top Projects & Priorities for the Coming Year



**2013-2014**

### **COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE OVERARCHING TOP PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES FOR THE COMING YEAR:**

1. BARNSTORMING TOUR
2. ROUNDTABLES AND OTHER NETWORKING EVENTS
3. DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES "ROAD SHOW"

#### NARRATIVES:

##### 1. BARNSTORMING TOUR

In 2012, the Department of Cultural Resources partnered with the Division of Travel and Tourism Development on a statewide, 7-stop "Barnstorming" tour. The goal was to educate and engage cultural tourism organizations and individuals about DTTD's new "Live Free and..." marketing campaign. The tour received much good feedback from each agency as well as from attendees and hosting organizations. In the coming year, the Department is planning on another "Barnstorming" tour, this time working with the Community College System of New Hampshire, the Department of Resources and Economic Development's Division of Economic Development and the Creative Communities Network. Visits to each of the CCSNH campuses will take place, and the focus of the conversations will be on integrating the creative economy into the economic development of New Hampshire's communities. Students, faculty, administrators and members of the community at large – including those on mailing lists from all Department of Cultural Resources' divisions – will be invited to attend.

##### 2. ROUNDTABLES AND OTHER NETWORKING EVENTS

On a quarterly basis, the Commissioner holds "Commissioner's Roundtables on Cultural and Heritage Tourism." Cultural venues across the state serve as hosts and partners; often other organizations provide programming partnership support. Topics are always related to cultural and heritage tourism but each has a specific focus designed to foster planning, incorporate new ideas into programming and create partnerships with other organizations. Format for the event includes micro-presentations and open discussion, followed by networking time. These events have been consistently successful, with new attendees at each event and with others who come to several each year. Audience members include individual artists, arts organizations, historical societies, tourism professionals, librarians, students and more. We will continue to hold these events and will investigate developing other gatherings where a majority of the time will be spent on networking and with less focus on presentation and group-wide conversation.

##### 3. DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES "ROAD SHOW"

Local service and business organizations (Rotary, chambers of commerce, etc.) attract local leaders. In an effort to expand the understanding of the work that the Department of Cultural Resources and its divisions do within New Hampshire's communities, the Commissioner's Office is in the process of creating a "road show" presentation that can be given at meetings of those and other interested organizations. The

presentation outlines programs and projects within the department – clearly defined by each division / office – and makes clear how our work provides support to communities and has a positive impact on the economy and visitor industry. Structured as a PowerPoint, the presentation will be easily adaptable for varied audiences. It is expected that the Commissioner will be the one to present when invited by an organization.

## **ARTS DIVISION - TOP PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES FOR THE COMING YEAR:**

1. CREATIVE COMMUNITIES NETWORK & CONVENING
2. ANNUAL ARTS IN EDUCATION CONFERENCE & STEM TO STEAM INITIATIVE
3. ARTIST ENTREPRENEURIAL WORKSHOPS

### NARRATIVES:

#### 1. CREATIVE COMMUNITIES NETWORK & CONVENING

The State Arts Council provides a variety of grants and services directed at improving the quality of life and economic health of communities through engagement in the arts. In FY2010, the State Arts Council initiated a partnership to support the emerging Creative Communities Network, a statewide consortium of local/regional arts councils, arts organizations, municipal arts commissions and agencies, Main Street programs, chambers of commerce, and economic development agencies. The Network's mission is: *To strengthen and promote economic and community development across New Hampshire through the arts, artists and creative industries.*

In FY14, the State Arts Council will be establishing support for the network through a part time temporary position that will help facilitate convenings and connect the network to other valuable resources. The enfolding of support for creative economy is consistent with the State Arts Council's recent work with American for the Arts to establish the first baseline data quantifying the positive economy impact of the arts in New Hampshire in the Arts in Economic Prosperity IV survey. By integrating administrative support for the creative economy into the State Arts Council, the Department is seeking to provide deeper and more meaningful connections amongst planners, economic development agencies, arts organizations and others. We are also exploring hosting a Creative Communities Exchange conference to provide a much needed opportunity for networking across sectors and the sharing of information tailored to the varying levels of advancement that communities have achieved in creative economy work.

#### **Website Link:**

<http://nhcreativecommunities.org/>

#### 2. ANNUAL ARTS IN EDUCATION CONFERENCE & STEM TO STEAM INITIATIVE

This year's conference, scheduled for October 24 & 25 at Campy Cody in Ossipee, will bring together educators, teaching artists, parents, as well as community and education leaders to explore ways to implement quality arts education and programming in schools and communities. The conference will include hands-on arts workshops, information on grants writing & funding opportunities, exhibits & resources, updates on arts & the Common Core & National Arts Standards, and discussions on emerging issues in arts education.

#### Conference Highlights Include:

- Keynote speakers: - Eric Booth, author & artist, "the father of the teaching arts profession"- Heidi Joann Welch, music educator & 2013 NH Teacher of the Year

- Discussions with the NH Arts Learning Network
- Friday night Play it Forward participatory concert, dance & workshop with blues & jazz musician TJ Wheeler, Andrew Raeside & friends
- Film screening of Inocente, Oscar award-winning documentary about homelessness in America and the transformative power of art
- Kyle Brown and John Anderson, Artists in Residence, White Mountain National Forest
- Some conference sessions will address the current **STEM** to **STEAM** movement, which integrates the arts and creativity into curriculum standards, with a view that they the arts are the missing link to enabling young people to activate the information and skills learned in science, technology, engineering and math.

Partners for the 2013 Arts Education Conference include:

- The New Hampshire Department of Education
- The Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire
- The National Endowment for the Arts
- The New Hampshire Arts Learning Network
- Extending the Dance Map

**Website link:** <http://www.nh.gov/nharts/programservices/aieconferences/2013aieconf.html>

## 2. ARTIST ENTREPRENEURIAL WORKSHOPS

The State Arts Council recognizes that individual artists are vital to the state's creative life and constitute an important segment of self-employed businesses in New Hampshire. Professional artists rely on their ingenuity in the creation of artwork in the execution of sound business practices. The State Arts Council promotes the success, visibility, and value of the state's individual artists and offers workshops who are seeking to enhance their business skills, promote their work and network with other artists. The goal of the workshops is to help artists realize their potential and contribute more effectively to the creative economy. Over the next year we will expand the State Arts series to address the needs of artists at various points in their careers and working in a broad range of disciplines. Former topics have included:

- Pinterest for Your Business

An introduction to the world's fastest growing social media site being used to increase awareness about and engagement with your brand.

- Photographing Your Work

How to photograph work for exhibitions, on-line postings and print publications.

- Public Art: Community, Participation & Commerce

An introduction to contemporary approaches to public art projects that are inclusive of communities.

- Your Book, Your Way

An introduction to publishing a book, from manuscript to agents, from editors and to contracts, including options for self-publishing.

- Your Portfolio, Your Market

The uses of portfolio in marketing work and some of the routes one can take to publishing a portfolio.

## **NEW HAMPSHIRE FILM & TELEVISION OFFICE - TOP PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES FOR THE COMING YEAR:**

1. IN-HOUSE PRODUCTION & LOCATIONS DATABASE
2. MULTI-AGENCY VIDEO PRODUCTION COLLABORATIVE & RESOURCE
3. STREAMLINING FILM PERMITTING WITH PARKS & RECREATION

## NARRATIVES:

### 1. IN-HOUSE PRODUCTION & LOCATIONS DATABASE

Due to recent budget cuts, the New Hampshire Film & Television Office had to discontinue its subscription to Reel-Scout, a web-based location library and production tracking system used by over 80 film commissions nationwide. Since the service went live in 2006, we had been paying \$7000 annually, with the fee anticipated to have increased to \$9000 in the coming year (with added functionality). Having a working knowledge of MySQL databases and PHP web programming, I decided to build a similar system that would be fully ours to control and modify as needed. The production tracking module is an integral part of the Film Office's everyday operations, and I'm happy to report that, two months after we discontinued our Reel-Scout service, the production tracking module of our in-house system is online and functioning. In the coming months I will be building the locations library side. During this time, I will also be integrating our current Crew & Services Directory (which I also built in-house and can be seen at <http://nhfilmdirectory.com>), the production tracking module, and the locations library into a single system.

### 2. MULTI-AGENCY VIDEO PRODUCTION COLLABORATIVE & RESOURCE

The Film & Television Office has seen growing interest from state agencies to have their various conferences, workshops, and presentations taped and packaged for either DVD or Internet distribution. The Office started a partnership with Concord Community Television where, for a nominal fee, Concord TV would come and tape the event, edit it, and provide the agency with a DVD copy—with the understanding that it also be broadcast on the local public access channel. Since Concord TV is just one in a hub of many such local media centers, this would be an opportunity to have agencies disseminate information via cable access TV. Now we are thinking one step further—various state agencies have their own video equipment—would it be possible to create, through the Film Office, a network of production resources that state agencies can tap into to have their information captured onto video and broadcast via our local cable access stations? We will be developing a plan for this and exploring the possibilities with other state agencies in the coming months. The Film Office is also looking to obtain its own video production equipment and be a resource for other state agencies, while providing a learning opportunity for video production students.

### 3. STREAMLINING FILM PERMITTING WITH PARKS & RECREATION

The Film & Television Office has had a long history of working with Parks & Recreation when it comes to coordinating film, TV, and photo shoot projects in state parks. However, the process tends to differ project-to-project, and the requirements and fee structures have not been consistent. The Film & Television Office will be working with Parks & Recreation to create a more standardized permitting process for both commercial and non-commercial photographic projects, with the Film & Television Office continuing to be the initial point-of-contact.

## **DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES - TOP PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES FOR THE COMING YEAR:**

1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOBS
2. NORTHERN PASS
3. PROJECTS WITH OTHER STATE AGENCIES

## NARRATIVES:

### 1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOBS

The DHR has seen a strong rebounding interest in use the federal Preservation Tax Incentives Program over the last five years in NH. Six rehabilitation projects in five communities, totaling more than \$35 million dollars in investment, are now underway. The DHR advises developers as to whether and how their projects would qualify for the incentive and then facilitates the project's successful review with the National Park Service. Nationally in 2012, Preservation Tax Incentive projects pumped \$3.5 billion into local economics, supporting an estimated 57,000 jobs. Jobs that rehabilitate historic buildings tend to be local and more high-skilled and higher paying than those in new construction. Increasing the number and success of Preservation Tax Incentive projects in NH is a high priority for the DHR in the coming year. In 2014, the DHR will also play a key role in the success of the next round of historic preservation grant projects funded through the NH Land & Community Heritage Investment Program. Since its inception, LCHIP funds have helped to rehabilitate 142 historic buildings in NH, creating skilled construction jobs and leveraging \$7.91 in investment for every \$1 invested. DHR staff members work with project proponents to have their buildings designated as historic, serve on grant panels, serve on the Board of Directors, review and certify each rehabilitation project, and provide ongoing technical support during construction. The next grant round will offer about \$4 million in funding.

### 2. NORTHERN PASS

Although the Division of Historical Resources (DHR) reviews about 1,000 projects a year under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the scale, complexity, high-visibility and number of participating agencies, consultants, attorneys and organizations on the Northern Pass project put it into a different category. The DHR has been meeting with various participants over the last three years. Over the next year, time and resources needed for consultation, approval of consultant products and review decisions will increase a great deal. The DHR is coordinating its review closely with the US Department of Energy (responsible for issuing the Presidential Permit on the project) and with the advice of the NH Attorney General's Office.

### 3. PROJECTS WITH OTHER STATE AGENCIES

Increasing its service to other state agencies and programs has been a recent high priority for the DHR. The successful completion of several innovative state agency projects is a high priority over the next year.

These include:

- Creation and implementation of a first-ever Programmatic Agreement with the NH Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. The agreement will streamline or eliminate the review of transportation projects that present no effects to historical or archaeological properties under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- The state is now selling two historic properties at the State Hospital grounds in Concord. DHR has suggested the use of a term preservation easement to both encourage their sale and meet the requirements of NH RSA 227-C:9(III). The term easement will provide a sufficient amount of time to ensure the properties' rehabilitation and reuse, while not permanently encumbering them, the first time this type of tool has been utilized. If successful, it could serve as a model for future sales.
- At the urging of the (former) NHDOT Commissioner, DHR is assuming the responsibility of administering a major project that will mitigate the replacement of the nationally-significant historic Memorial Bridge in Portsmouth. (Previously, DOT managed all historical mitigation measures.) The project will list downtown Portsmouth on the National Register of Historic

Places, providing recognition and benefits such as eligibility for federal Preservation Tax Incentives and special consideration in the application of building and life safety codes for hundreds of historical properties. By building count, it will be the largest historic district in the state, spanning four centuries of NH history. A Memorandum of Understanding between DHR and DOT governing the project will come before Governor and Council shortly.

## **STATE LIBRARY: TOP PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES FOR THE COMING YEAR:**

1. OPEN SOURCE LIBRARY SYSTEMS
2. TV WHITE SPACE FOR WIFI HOT SPOTS

### NARRATIVES:

#### 1. OPEN SOURCE LIBRARY SYSTEMS

In 2013 the state library Launched a project named nhaisLOCAL. This project is initially aimed at our smallest under resourced libraries who have difficulty purchasing and maintaining a library automation systems Using an opens software package named KOHA we are bringing these small libraries to the point where they can benefit from automation and can afford not only the set up cost but the annual maintenance. Six libraries are using the system now Three more will come on board this fall. We are looking for this group of traditionally under resourced libraries to benefit from this program and to be better able to serve their patrons. The six libraries Danville, Litchfield, Lyndebrough, Warner and Colebrook make this a truly statewide system stretching from a community on the Canadian border to the Massachusetts boarder and from east to west.

#### 2. TV WHITE SPACE FOR WIFI HOT SPOTS

Serving the unserved and underserved Libraries in New Hampshire with strong BroadbandThe New Hampshire State library is partnering with the University of New Hampshire Broadband center for Excellence to provide inexpensive strong broadband service to under serve areas of New Hampshire. On August 29 Grants to five state including New Hampshire were announce by the Gigabit Libraries Network. Selected libraries in these states will be getting equipment which will increase there through put using TVWS (Television White Space )freed up recently in the switch to digital TV signals. **GLN also announced it has accepted a proposal from the University of New Hampshire's Broadband**

Center of Excellence (BCoE) to lead a statewide collaboration – including the New Hampshire State Library and NH FastRoads –to deploy TVWS systems in rural parts of the state. GLN and BCoE also announced a New collaboration called the “Libraries Whitespace Lab” to explore emerging applications and related system issues effecting libraries anywhere.

“We are excited about the possibilities presented by TV Whitespace technology to provide affordable broadband connectivity to un-served and underserved public libraries in the state of New Hampshire. BCoE views TV Whitespace technology as an important tool to connect Broadband starved areas of New Hampshire to the state university system and to the worldwide broadband community,” says BCoE Executive Director Dr. Rouzbe Yassini.