

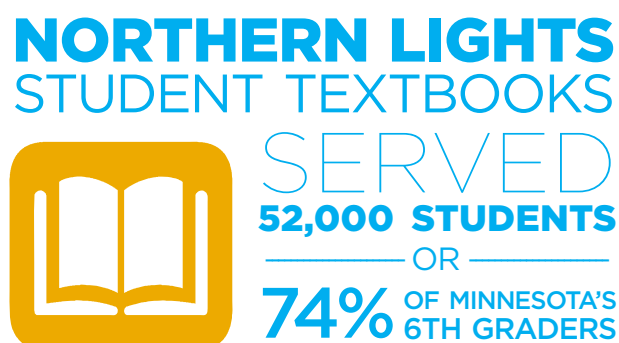
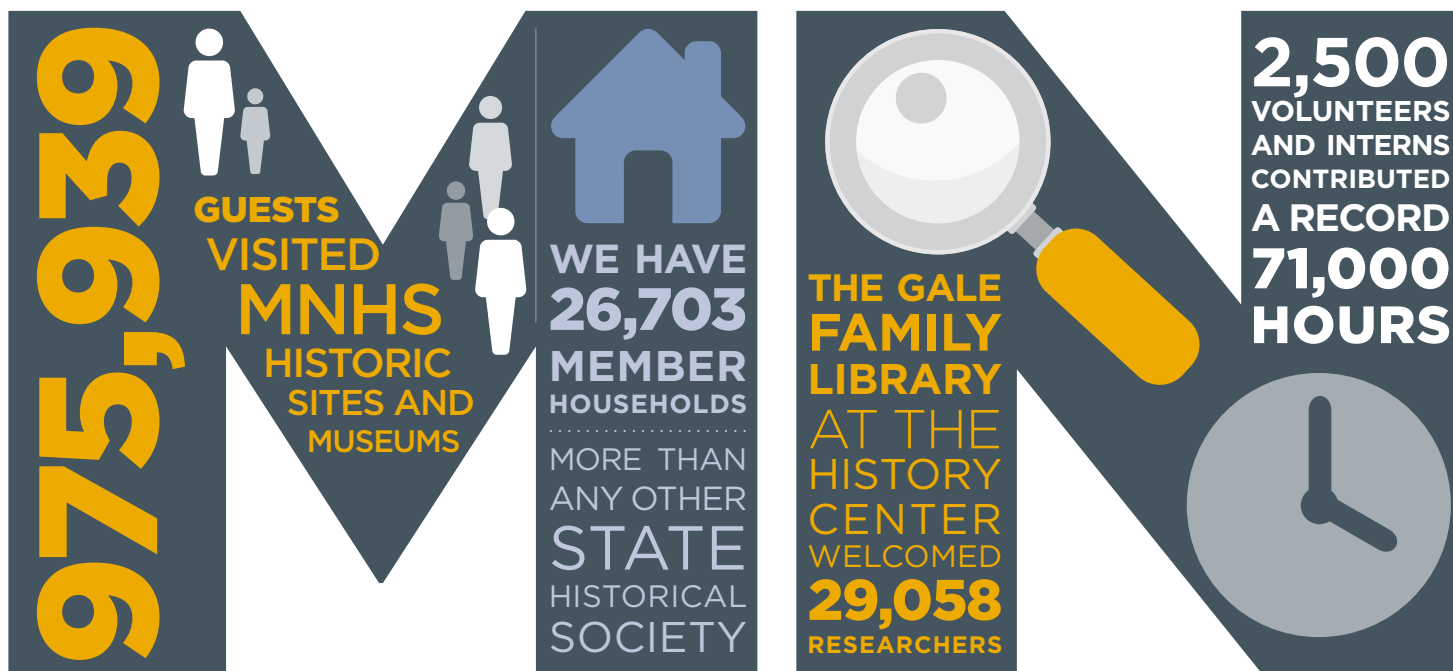


MINNESOTA  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

# MNHS

ANNUAL REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR 2016



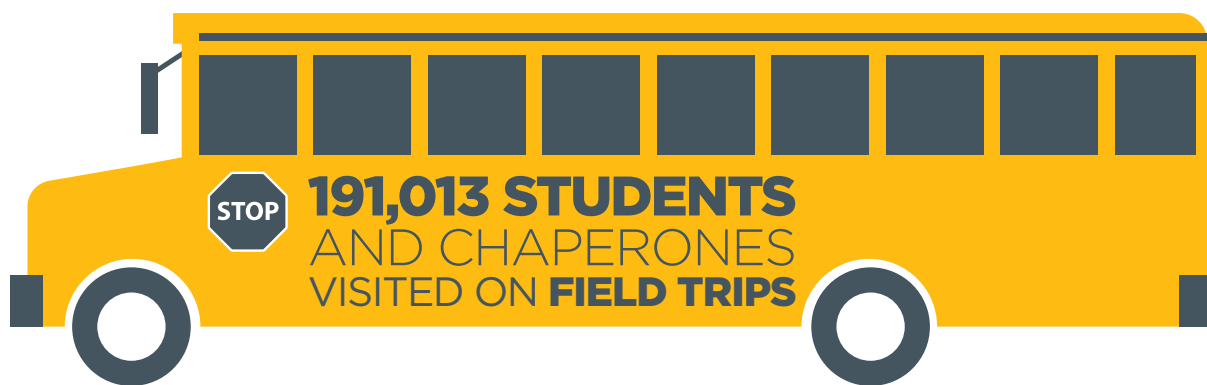


Front: Coat worn by Prince in the movie *Purple Rain*, 1984, from the MNHS collections  
Back: Prince memorial at the Minnesota History Center, April

2.5 MILLION PEOPLE VISITED  
**MNHS.ORG**  
FIVE MILLION TIMES



WE HAVE  
ENGAGED  
**120,000**  
VISITORS  
ON MNHS  
SOCIAL  
MEDIA  
PLATFORMS



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### We are living in a time of significant social change.

And thanks to you, our supporters, we are able to use the power of history to help inform, to understand and to navigate the opportunities and challenges of change, especially in this post-election season. In the words of American Alliance of Museums president, Laura Lott, "Our institutions are uniquely positioned to listen, learn and educate; to give historical context; and to foster empathy and inclusion by sharing the stories and perspectives of all people." As we collectively seek to forge a new path forward in our nation—and in Minnesota—organizations like MNHS have a unique opportunity to lead.

Our goal at the Minnesota Historical Society is not only to preserve history, but to advance the understanding of where and how far we've come; to share diverse stories and perspectives; to spark different, more productive conversations. As a historical society, our vantage point gives us an edge. History helps us understand who we are and how we got to where we are. By taking time to understand each other, we can help define a different and better future.

My involvement here at MNHS over the years continues to be a joy and a constant learning experience, opening up my eyes and ears to so many stories and perspectives, and broadening my understanding of the history that I did not know, as well as shedding new light on the history that I thought I knew.

In the past year, we have engaged our communities in new ways. We sponsored multicultural exhibits, such as *Beyond Bollywood*, hosted dialogic discussions at our historic sites and continued important outreach. Our Somali oral history project serves as another example as we strive to create opportunities for broader conversations. We also continuously seek to reflect a variety of viewpoints in our collections and exhibits.

This year, we have also made connections with more Minnesotans than ever before. Our efforts are being recognized. In the past year, the *Peb Yog Hmoob/We Are Hmong Minnesota* exhibit received the History in Progress Award from the American Association for State and Local History. The *Suburbia* exhibit received a MUSE Award from the American Alliance of Museums. And every year the Minnesota Historical Society Press publishes award-winning books sharing interesting perspectives and spurring important conversations in our communities.

It is a true honor to serve MNHS and the state of Minnesota in my role as board president. I am grateful and excited to work with the other members of the MNHS Executive Council, the MNHS staff and volunteers, our members and supporters, and all Minnesotans as we build our future together.

Thank you,



Phyllis Goff, President





## FROM THE DIRECTOR AND CEO

### 2016 was a strong year for both mission delivery and financial performance.

Nearly 1 million guests visited MNHS historic sites and museums, nearly a quarter of them students. We leveraged our resources and educational expertise to reach more young people, especially those with financial and educational challenges. We engaged with communities of color and American Indian nations, and we expanded our outreach with our online presence, digital collections and social media platforms.

We also celebrated the 100th anniversary of our Local History Services team. Since 1916, when this became an official function of our institution, we have provided field services and technical support to local history and preservation organizations across the state. Another way we do this is by awarding grants from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. In 2016, we awarded 214 Legacy grants across Minnesota, totaling \$4.5 million.

We continue to expand the stories we tell. The revitalization of Historic Fort Snelling remains one of our highest priorities. By telling the many stories of this area, known in Dakota as Bdote, more people from Minnesota—and around the world—will find a connection to this unique place. We appreciate your continued support in contacting your public officials to endorse this undertaking. Further design and construction at the fort will be part of a \$34 million request in the 2017 legislative session. The remaining \$12 million will be secured through private funding, and this is off to a very good start. We also are seeking the resources needed to fund other important work, including education and diversity, digital preservation, endowing core positions and preserving our historic sites.

Finally, we celebrate our members, donors, staff, governing board members, elected officials and 2,500 volunteers and interns. Together, your commitment to MNHS allows us to deliver better outcomes year after year. Through history, we're making a difference in preserving and sharing the stories of Minnesotans, providing context for today and understanding for facing our future. That's reason to celebrate!

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "D. Stephen Elliott". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing "D" and "S".

D. Stephen Elliott, Director and CEO



▲ Jeffers Petroglyphs

## ATTENDANCE AND MEMBERSHIP

In FY16, MNHS made great strides helping more people connect with history. Membership ended the year with 26,703 households, up 11%, with strong growth in sales at historic sites. Online visitation grew by 19% with 5.1 million visits by 2.5 million unique visitors. Social media platforms saw a dramatic increase of 76% over last year, engaging more than 120,000 followers.

A number of historic sites saw increases in field trip visits, including a dramatic increase of 51% at Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post and 57% at Jeffers Petroglyphs. The increase was due in part to targeted marketing to American Indian schools that received an increase in state funding for field trips. Overall, 191,013 students and chaperones visited MNHS historic sites and museums, down 3% due to the State Capitol being closed for renovations.

Attendance across the historic sites and museums division saw a 3% increase last year—again no small feat considering the Capitol was closed. When the History Center count is included, visitation across all sites was

975,939—down 1% over last year, due in part to a drop in attendance following the blockbuster exhibit *Toys of the 50s, 60s and 70s* and the community exhibit *Peb Yog Hmoob/We Are Hmong Minnesota* the previous year.

In Jeffers, a little town  
There are symbols on the ground.  
Long ago, natives would write  
at where three rivers joined tight.  
For the sky was clear as glass  
They would watch all the stars pass.  
They carved symbols into stone  
But these glyphs weren't left alone.  
Lichen took up all the space  
and covered up the rock face.  
Glyphs to see were very few  
It was not as fun to view.  
But now since the ground's been scrubbed  
There's more glyphs to know & love!

Alex, 10 11

## HISTORIC SITES & MUSEUMS

High attendance at MNHS historic sites and museums followed a year of dynamic and engaging programming. Mill City Museum saw the largest overall attendance increase, ending the year up 9% due in part to the book launch and companion exhibit for *Downtown: Minneapolis in the 1970s*, which drew constant crowds. Holiday programming brought in families at the Alexander Ramsey House, up 26%, Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post, up 14% and the James J. Hill House, up 8%. The Forest History Center opened seven days a week during the summer, increasing attendance 14%. Other sites with double-digit increases included North West Company Fur Post and Jeffers Petroglyphs, up 18% and Split Rock Lighthouse, up 12%.

MNHS historic sites and museums partnered in FY16 to deliver new programs, including Mill City Museum's Hennepin Island Hydropower Tour created in partnership with Xcel Energy; the rollout of two new exhibits

at Lac Qui Parle Mission and Fort Ridgely historic sites, developed in partnership with students from Gustavus Adolphus College and Minnesota State University, Mankato; and a project with Washington Technology Magnet School in St. Paul where students researched the life of Martha Clark Hall, an African American servant who worked for the Ramsey family, which will result in new programming at the Alexander Ramsey House. In addition, MNHS partnered with a number of groups on work related to the State Capitol restoration, including advising on the conservation of art and architecture, planning new public spaces and developing new programs.

In FY16, MNHS welcomed new relationships with the Dakota County Historical Society, which will manage the Sibley Historic Site, and the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County, which will manage the Comstock House. Exciting new programming is being developed at both sites.



▲ Mill City Museum

IN FISCAL YEAR 2016

**975,939**  
**GUESTS**

VISITED MNHS  
HISTORIC SITES  
AND MUSEUMS



◀ James J. Hill House





▲ Blacksmith shop; Dred and Harriet Scott quarters; students from the Military Intelligence Service Language School, 1945

## HISTORIC FORT SNELLING

With a human history 10,000 years in the making, the area that is today known as Fort Snelling is the site of essential stories of our shared past—some well known, others known by very few. In FY16, we continued work to revitalize Historic Fort Snelling to be more inclusive and accessible to more Minnesotans. Since the fort is part of the state's network of historic sites, MNHS approached the legislature with a request of \$34 million to help fund this statewide asset. Along with the request, MNHS launched an advocacy campaign that resulted in broad statewide support. In addition, MNHS has made strong progress in its goal of raising an additional \$12 million from individuals, corporations and foundations for this public-private partnership.

MNHS staff held community open houses and workshops to build engagement with diverse communities and to solicit input on expanding the program vision to present the many stories of the area over thousands of years

of history. The outcome is the establishment of project themes, a content research road map and overview, a draft plan for exhibits and input on the design work to maximize programmatic opportunities.

In April, the National Trust for Historic Preservation named "Bdote Fort Snelling," which includes Historic Fort Snelling and the surrounding area, a National Treasure, focusing a national spotlight on a historic area that reveals the richness of the American story. This is the

first National Treasure designation in the state of Minnesota. The National Park Service awarded a preservation grant to MNHS that will fund an update to the existing National Register nomination for the Historic Fort Snelling Historic District. MNHS also enlisted Quinn Evans Architects to complete a Cultural Landscape Report, which provides a long-term management strategy for future growth, including ADA accessibility upgrades, while ensuring that the historic integrity of the site is maintained.

*"It was his first time actually marching with them [Fife and Drum] while playing. He came in the car just grinning and said how much fun it was; how good it sounded outside; then said, 'I learned it's really hard to play fife while smiling.'"*

— VOLUNTEER'S PARENT



# OLIVER KELLEY FARM

In FY16, MNHS reached its fundraising goal of \$4 million to add to the \$10.5 million in state funds for a new visitor center and farm support buildings at the Oliver Kelley Farm in Elk River. In addition, MNHS held workshops and discussion sessions with more than two dozen agricultural groups to gather feedback to help shape new exhibits and educational programs at the farm. Construction is nearing completion ahead of a spring 2017 grand opening and launch of new and enhanced field trips, public programs and exhibits.



## ▼ Oliver Kelley Farm



***“ With our new visitor center and state-of-the-art classrooms, we’ll be able to welcome more students and visitors than ever. I can’t wait for the ‘aha’ moments of the field trip groups this spring.”***

**— BOB QUIST, SITE MANAGER,  
OLIVER KELLEY FARM**

## DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

In FY16, MNHS achieved numerous diversity and inclusion milestones. The Department of Inclusion and Community Engagement (DICE) continued to lead the way with meaningful learning opportunities for staff; support for community relationship building events, such as Somali Independence Day, Hmong American Day and the University of Minnesota Spring Powwow; and educational outreach. In addition, DICE began the process of strategic planning for diversity and inclusion across MNHS.

The popular *Peb Yog Hmoob/We Are Hmong Minnesota* exhibit closed in January with a ceremony that included remarks by Hmong American dignitaries and elected officials. In the spring, the exhibit *Beyond Bollywood: Indian Americans Shape the Nation* opened with a slate of public programs featuring Indian classical dance, art activities, Bollywood

music and food demonstrations. Developed by the Smithsonian Institution, MNHS worked with members of Minnesota's Indian American community to add significant local content to the exhibit. The community advisory group also provided input on programs and helped raise funds for the exhibit and for MNHS.

MNHS launched two new programs in FY16, "Crucial Conversations" at the History Center and "Fort Snelling Conversations" at Historic Fort Snelling, that use dialogic interpretation to help guests better engage with one another. Each dialogue is facilitated by staff members trained by the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience. Additional programs will be rolled out at the North West Company Fur Post and the Charles A. Lindbergh Historic Site in FY17.



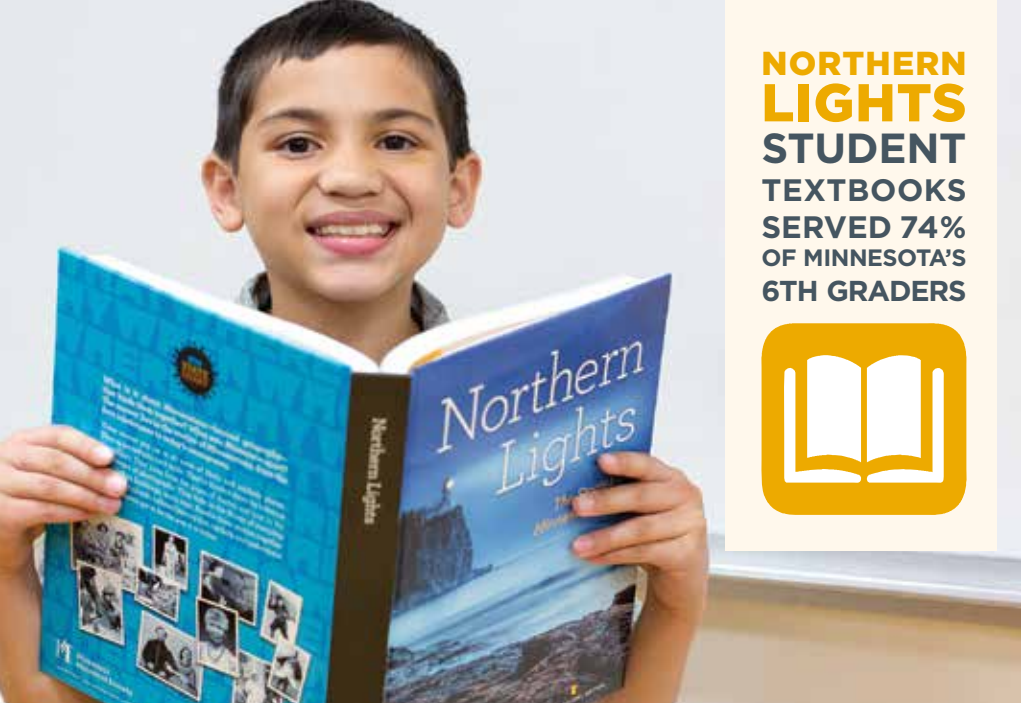
▲ History museum fellows in Washington, D.C.

MNHS conducted three fellowship programs for college undergraduates and recent graduates from traditionally underrepresented communities and sovereign tribal nations. These programs allowed 34 students to explore careers within the museum field, meet with museum professionals and complete projects and build skills.



▲ Dancer at exhibit opening of *Beyond Bollywood: Indian Americans Shape the Nation*

◀ Performers at exhibit opening of *Peb Yog Hmoob/We Are Hmong Minnesota*



**NORTHERN  
LIGHTS  
STUDENT  
TEXTBOOKS  
SERVED 74%  
OF MINNESOTA'S  
6TH GRADERS**



▲ *Grace and Sovigne Gardner from St. Paul's Open World Learning Community school earn first place at National History Day*

## EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AND LIFELONG LEARNING

In FY16, MNHS launched the Partnership for Place-Based Learning funded by grants from the WEM and Larson Foundations. In the first year of the program, 750 students from urban and first-ring suburban secondary schools participated in one-day and overnight field trips to historic sites and colleges across the state.

The Legacy Field Trip Support fund served a record 22,014 students across Minnesota with bus transportation subsidies, while the MacMillan Field Trip Transportation Grant served 5,880 students from greater Minnesota through hotel stays and bus transportation subsidies.

In FY16, *Northern Lights* digital and print edition sold 15,600 copies, which makes it the textbook in use for 74% of Minnesota's 6th graders. The award-winning Play the Past mobile game expanded within the exhibit *Then Now Wow* with content about the Dakota tipi. In addition, MNHS provided 38,000 6th Grade MN History Passes for children to visit historic sites and museums for free all year long.

New education resources in FY16 included the launch of a primary source packet series designed to engage students in six complex history topics ranging from American Indian termination and relocation to the fur trade to the civil rights movement. Demand for the History Live video conferencing program boomed in FY16 with more than 8,400 students served, an increase of 49%. The program also launched a new lesson on the Emancipation Proclamation.

At the National History Day competition in Washington, D.C., sisters Grace and Sovigne Gardner from St. Paul's Open World Learning Community school earned first place for their website about Jacques Cousteau, and Chanhassen High School teacher Jenny Zanner Rowe received the Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year award, a first for a Minnesota teacher. In all, 16 of the 66 students who qualified for nationals from Minnesota took home awards—the most from any state. More than 27,000 Minnesota students participated in History Day at school, regional and state levels.

Together in Time, an outreach program designed to meet the needs of a diverse, aging population, earned an IMLS grant of \$91,408. The program includes training for interpretive staff as Dementia Friends, so they can lead sensory based tours, hold informal Memory Cafe gatherings and facilitate community programs. In addition, MNHS staff traveled to the National Museums Liverpool to discuss the launch of the first mobile memory app in the United States.



▲ *Wini Froelich, center, works with people living with memory loss and their care partners at Mill City Museum*



▲ Book launch for *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota*

## MNHS PRESS

MNHS Press ended the year with 94,784 print and e-books sold, a 4% increase over last year. Sales were particularly strong over the holidays, with the mailing of the first MNHS winter catalogue. Top book sales included *Downtown: Minneapolis in the 1970s*, *North Woods Girl* and *Everything You Wanted to Know about Indians But Were Afraid to Ask* (published in 2012). Top award winners included *North Woods Girl* and *Warrior Nation*.

The MNHS Press' celebrated book *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota* launched with a public event at the History Center that drew an audience of more than 350, many of them first-time visitors. The book has been reprinted three times. Due to continuing demand, six Twin Cities-area colleges, including Hamline University, St. Catherine University and Normandale Community College, organized campus-wide reading programs around the book.

## MN OPEDIA

MINNESOTA ENCYCLOPEDIA

MNopedia, the encyclopedia of Minnesota history, reached several milestones in FY16 with 1 million total pages viewed since launch and more than 500 articles written. In FY16, 158,815 different users viewed 216,929 pages, a 28% increase over the previous year.



**MNHS PRESS**  
**SOLD 94,784**  
PRINT AND E-BOOKS



▲ ACHF grants support preservation work of archaeological canoes such as this one pulled from Lake Minnetonka in 1934

## STATEWIDE PRESERVATION

The Minnesota Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit supported four completed projects in FY16, which received just over \$4 million in credits. To date, more than \$128 million in tax credits or grants-in-lieu-of-credits have been awarded, preserving dozens of historic structures for future generations.

Through a state appropriation, MNHS provided \$981,650 in capital preservation project grants, and through a federal appropriation from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, MNHS awarded \$107,000 in Certified Local Government grants. The City of Gaylord became the 44th Certified Local Government, a status that enables local governments to apply for federal matching grants to preserve

historic properties. The Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF) provided more than \$4.5 million through 214 grants awarded across Minnesota. In addition, through the ACHF, a new Historic Recognition Grants Program was created to support projects that commemorate Minnesota's role in the Civil War.

Statewide asset preservation included the start of a major re-roofing project at Split Rock Lighthouse visitor center and garages, and an effort to stabilize and further preserve the lighthouse's Fresnel lens. Preservation work was also done at the Charles A. Lindbergh Historic Site, Mill City Museum and the Comstock House, which enabled the house to reopen following a yearlong closure.



▲ Split Rock Lighthouse Fresnel lens



► Educator Saida Hassan participates in the Somali oral history project funded by the ACHF



▲ *Schmid Farmhouse Ruins*

## NATIONAL REGISTER

SIXTEEN PROPERTIES WERE NOMINATED TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES:

**Pine-Hickory Lakes Roadside Parking Area**, Farm Island Township, Aitkin County

**New Ulm High School**, New Ulm, Brown County

**Kenney Lake Overlook**, Garrison Township, Crow Wing County

**St. Alban's Bay Culvert at Mille Lacs Lake**, Garrison Township, Crow Wing County

**Inspiration Point Wayside Rest**, Carrolton Township, Fillmore County

**Bridge No. 90646 (Wooddale Avenue Bridge)**, Edina, Hennepin County

**McLeod and Smith Inc., Headquarters**, Minneapolis, Hennepin County

**Strutwear Knitting Company Building**, Minneapolis, Hennepin County

**Wayzata Bay Wreck**, Wayzata Bay, Lake Minnetonka, Hennepin County

**Schmid Farmhouse Ruins**, Minnetrista, Hennepin County

**Hotel Sacred Heart**, Sacred Heart, Renville County

**Ely Community Center**, Ely, St. Louis County

**Duluth Harbor North Pier Light**, Duluth, St. Louis County

**Duluth South Breakwater Outer Light**, Duluth, St. Louis County

**Bridge L7075 (Hartford Stone Bridge)**, Hartford Township, Todd County

**Hoffman Apiaries**, Janesville, Waseca County



▲ *Strutwear Knitting Co. Building*



▼ *Wayzata Bay Wreck*

# SUSTAINABILITY & STEWARDSHIP

In FY16, MNHS focused on economic and social sustainability with the introduction of a new Customer Relationship Management system that will help track visitor attendance to better understand their needs. The system was rolled out at the James J. Hill House, Mill City Museum, the History Center and in online sales, membership and development. MNHS also began an organizational redesign aimed at helping staff maximize effectiveness and efficiency, ensure that inclusion is central to everyone's work, improve the financial strength of MNHS, invest in employees and nurture major initiatives.

In environmental sustainability, FY16 marked the 10-year anniversary of an MNHS energy, waste and water savings initiative that dramatically reduced consumption, costs and associated greenhouse gas emissions statewide. At the History Center, overall yearly energy consumption has been reduced by 57% since 2006.



▲ History Center staff sell tickets using the new Customer Relationship Management system

## LIBRARY

The Gale Family Library at the History Center welcomed just over 29,000 in-person and correspondence research requests, a similar number to last year. Demand remained strong for video tutorials and new finding aids, which are shared on Facebook, with an all-time record of “likes” for a finding aid on Southdale shopping center. The third year of the Legacy Research Fellowship resulted in seven awards in FY16, with researchers covering topics from Minnesota’s visual arts history, to the years following the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 and Minnesota’s role in World War I. Library staff also hosted a series of focus groups with genealogists and scholarly researchers to plan for an improved library search engine that will replace PeopleFinder in the fall of 2016.

► Gale Family Library at the History Center

“ I fell in LOVE with this library and all the wonderful info it provided me while looking up my family history! The staff was very helpful anytime I had a question. I cannot wait to go back!”

— LIBRARY PATRON



# COLLECTIONS

The first endowed position at MNHS, the Plank Chair in Library, Archives and Collections, was created, thanks to a significant gift by Raymond Plank that also included the donation of his papers. The first person to be awarded the chair is Jennifer Jones, Director, Library and Collections.

The second year of the Native American Artist-in-Residence program featured Denise Lajimodiere, who specializes in the art of birch-bark biting, and Holly Young, who focuses on Isanti/Dakota floral beadwork. Additional private funding for American Indian outreach resulted in collections-based activities at White Earth Tribal and Community College and at Sisseton Wahpeton College.



▲ Manuscripts curator Shelby Edwards, Mr. Ray Plank and Jennifer Jones, Plank Chair in Library, Archives and Collections

MNHS responded to the sudden passing of international music icon Prince with a remarkable effort to make his *Purple Rain* outfit available the very day he died. The costume went on display on the first floor of the History Center where visitors took photos and left remembrances. Media coverage of the display included Minnesota news outlets, *Newsweek*, *People*, CNN, *Access Hollywood*, MTV and many others.

This year 1,940 new items were added to the collection including:

- Booth, menu and sign from Nye's Polonaise Room in Minneapolis
- *Hermatite*, the Hibbing High School yearbook from 1958 which includes a photo of Bob Dylan in his junior year
- Donation from the estate of Raymond and Ruth Reister of 34 paintings including work by Cameron Booth, Charles Beck and Nicholas Brewer
- Copy of *The Trail of the Hawk* by Sinclair Lewis with the first dust jacket, designed by Norman Rockwell
- More than 100 lantern slides taken by conservationist and explorer Ernest Oberholtzer from his 1912 canoe journey to Hudson Bay and back
- Photograph album of the State Capitol Commissioners Board from 1896 to 1905 that includes more than 275 black and white prints depicting the construction of the Capitol. The photo book will be digitized and made available online in time for the grand reopening of the Capitol in 2017



“ I can't believe I got to see Prince's Purple Rain costume. My sister will be so jealous.”

— MEMORIAL VISITOR



# ARCHAEOLOGY

MNHS staff conducted archaeology field research throughout Minnesota during FY16. Major projects included a survey of a five-mile recreational trail corridor in the Minnesota River Valley, data recovery excavation at a prehistoric site on Lake Minnewaska in Glenwood and assessment of damage to historic resources in several state parks after blowdowns and floods. Archaeological research conducted at the Charles A. Lindbergh Historic Site in Little Falls revealed the presence of substantial artifact deposits, reflecting occupation of the property at least 6,000 years ago and perhaps as many as 9,000 years ago. MNHS helped with a University of Minnesota public archaeology project focused on Swede Hollow in St. Paul, and a number of students and professional archaeologists conducted research in the MNHS archaeological collections.



▲ Desiree Haggberg and Laura Bloom excavate at the Charles A. Lindbergh Historic Site  
Photo by Jeremy Nienow

## 2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

MNHS made considerable progress with its capital budget initiatives during the 2016 legislative session. Though a bonding bill was not passed and funding for the revitalization of Historic Fort Snelling remains undecided, the Governor and a number of key legislators offered public support for the project, which will be considered during a future legislative session. In addition, MNHS requested, but did not receive, funds for historic sites asset preservation, which are used to preserve historic and modern structures in the state's network of historic sites.

## DIGITAL PRESERVATION & ACCESS

In FY16, MNHS responded to the growing demands of a digital world with the creation of a new department of digital collection services. In addition to acquiring more of Minnesota's cultural heritage created in digital form, such as newspapers, photographs and documents, staff are digitizing physical items faster than ever. This year MNHS began developing a new process for digitizing manuscript collections as soon as they are acquired. The first collection to be digitized during the intake process will be the Raymond Plank papers.

MNHS added almost 200,000 pages of the *Duluth Herald* and the *Duluth Evening Herald* from 1887-1922 and a number of Civil War-era newspapers to the already extensive digital newspaper archive. A fourth grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities in FY16 supported the effort to digitize pre-1923 newspapers from Minnesota's ethnic and immigrant communities for the National Digital Newspaper Program. And a project is now underway to digitize the backup of current newspapers since the end of the microfilm program in 2009. This work will enable more people, no matter where they live, to have access to these items.

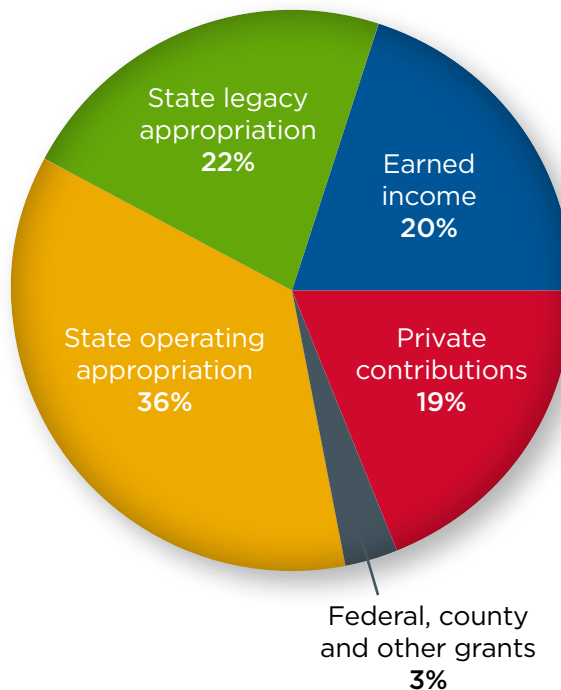


As a nonprofit, we serve the people of Minnesota. Our annual budget of about \$60 million comes from three sources that work together to bring the public vibrant, crucial programs and services: private funding, earned revenue and public funding, including significant funding from the State of Minnesota.

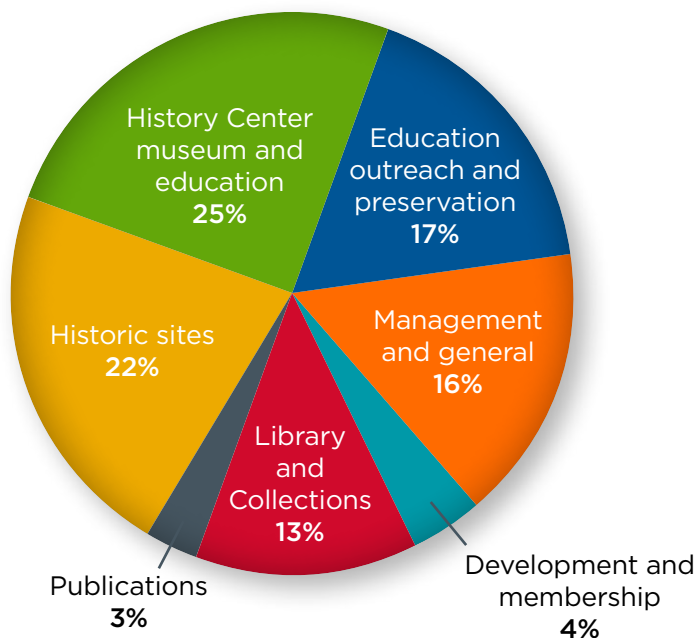
Public funds, including funding from the state's general fund, provide a foundation of support and enable us to leverage non-public funds to create a nationally recognized history program. Typically, two thirds of our operating funds come from the State of Minnesota. We deliver functions designated by law, such as preserving historic landmarks and resources, managing critical records and collections and operating cultural destinations important to tourism. State support also includes capital funding to preserve historic buildings and construct new ones, as well as Legacy Amendment (Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund) support for new, statewide history programs, including grants for local history organizations. Federal dollars support historic preservation programs mandated by federal law.

The Minnesota Historical Society also receives support from donors and members. Their gifts support everything from general operations and school field trips to important acquisitions, conservation work and community outreach. Endowment funds give MNHS strength for today and tomorrow. Finally, earned revenue from rental events, museum stores, admission fees, publication sales and many other activities also provide a base of funding while keeping history accessible and at family-friendly prices.

## SOURCES OF SUPPORT AND REVENUE



## EXPENSES BY PROGRAM AREA



# CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET AND STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

## Condensed Balance Sheet As of June 30, 2016

(000's) omitted

	Unrestricted			Temporarily restricted		Permanently restricted	Total
	Operating	Plant fund	Board-designated endowment	State appropriations	Other		2016
Cash and investments	\$4,444		9,623	(1,997)	18,308	58,061	88,439
Receivables	1,963			16,419	5,412	440	24,234
Museum shop inventories	1,075						1,075
Property and equipment net		88,070					88,070
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$7,482</b>	<b>88,070</b>	<b>9,623</b>	<b>14,422</b>	<b>23,720</b>	<b>58,501</b>	<b>201,818</b>
Total Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$316		4,650	3,013	208	339	8,526
Net assets	7,166	88,070	4,973	11,409	23,512	58,162	193,292
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$7,482</b>	<b>88,070</b>	<b>9,623</b>	<b>14,422</b>	<b>23,720</b>	<b>58,501</b>	<b>201,818</b>

## Statement of Activities Year ended June 30, 2016

(000's) omitted

<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE:</b>							
<b>Support:</b>							
Private contributions	\$3,789				3,551	3,662	11,002
Federal grants					1,592		1,592
County and other grants					62		62
State operating appropriation				21,576			21,576
State legacy appropriation				12,985			12,985
<b>Total support</b>	<b>3,789</b>			<b>34,561</b>	<b>5,205</b>	<b>3,662</b>	<b>47,217</b>
<b>Revenue:</b>							
Admission fees	2,623						2,623
Museum store sales	2,166						2,166
Publication sales	1,250						1,250
Program fees	1,519						1,519
Contract service fees	2,269				1		2,270
Library sales and fees	307						307
Investment return	24		(11)		(85)	(69)	(141)
Endowment payout	771		(251)		632	(1,152)	
Rental, parking, food services	1,378						1,378
Other sales, fees and memberships	703				3		706
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>13,010</b>		<b>(262)</b>		<b>551</b>	<b>(1,221)</b>	<b>12,078</b>
<b>Total support &amp; revenue</b>	<b>16,799</b>		<b>(262)</b>	<b>34,561</b>	<b>5,756</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>59,295</b>
Net assets released from program restrictions	40,727	11,926	(4,650)	(44,072)	(3,931)		
<b>Total support, revenue and net assets released from program restrictions</b>	<b>57,526</b>	<b>11,926</b>	<b>(4,912)</b>	<b>(9,511)</b>	<b>1,825</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>59,295</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>							
<b>Program services:</b>							
Library and Collections	7,282	199					7,481
Publications	1,924	8					1,932
Historic sites	11,977	751					12,728
History Center museum and education	14,014	548					14,562
Education outreach and preservation	9,978	6					9,984
<b>Total program services</b>	<b>45,175</b>	<b>1,512</b>					<b>46,687</b>
<b>Supporting services:</b>							
Management and general	9,371	51					9,422
Development and membership	2,184	1					2,185
<b>Total supporting services</b>	<b>11,555</b>	<b>52</b>					<b>11,607</b>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>56,730</b>	<b>1,564</b>					<b>58,294</b>
Net increase (decrease) in net assets	796	10,362	(4,912)	(9,511)	1,825	2,441	1,001
Net assets at beginning of year	6,370	77,708	9,885	20,920	21,687	55,721	192,291
<b>Net assets at end of year</b>	<b>\$7,166</b>	<b>88,070</b>	<b>4,973</b>	<b>11,409</b>	<b>23,512</b>	<b>58,162</b>	<b>193,292</b>

These statements are condensed from MNHS' audited financial statements which are available at [www.mnhs.org/reports](http://www.mnhs.org/reports).

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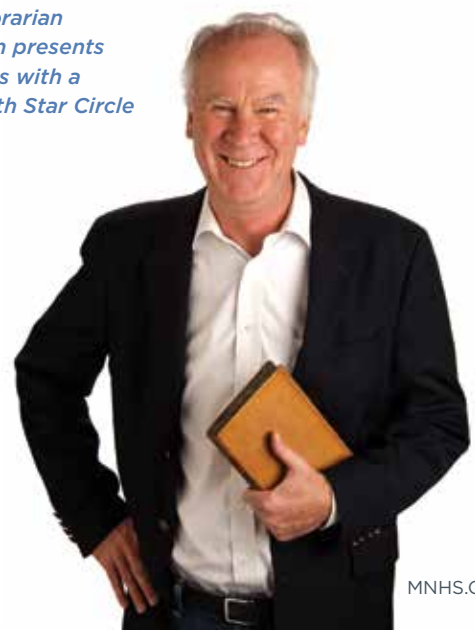
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▲ *Dr. and Mrs. Dash at the exhibit opening for Beyond Bollywood: Indian Americans Shape the Nation; Edward Gupta, a papier-mâché elephant welcomes visitors*

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▲ Sharon Avent, CEO and president of Smead Manufacturing, contributes her story to the MNHS business oral history collection

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