

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Voices and Votes  
Smithsonian Exhibit  
on Tour in Arkansas



# CONNECT



# FROM THE DIRECTOR

Jama Best, Executive Director



Did you know as of February 23, 2020 the population of the United States was 329,319,790 according to the United States Census Bureau? When the Declaration of Independence was signed in the summer of 1776 the population of the United States was estimated at 2.5 million.

Did you know on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died within hours of each other?

In partnership with the Smithsonian Institution and Museum on Main Street, the Arkansas Humanities Council is excited to bring *Voices and Votes: Democracy in America* to Arkansas June 6, 2020 - March 21, 2021, where you can learn more about American history and democracy.

The exhibition is based on the National Museum of American History — Smithsonian Institution exhibition *American Democracy: A Great Leap of Faith*. The exhibition will tour six locations in Arkansas and will feature historical photographs, multimedia interactives, historical objects, campaign and voter memorabilia, and more.

You'll find more information about *Voices and Votes: Democracy in America* tour in this issue.

*"The happy Union of these States is a wonder; their Constitution a miracle; their example the hope of Liberty throughout the world."*

— James Madison

## The Humanities Impact within the K-12 Educational Sector



*Dr. Felicia Petty Smith,  
Board Chair*

My in-depth learnings of the humanities on the local, state, and federal levels came while serving the last seven years as a state board member. Many K-12 teachers and students may not be familiar with the meaning of humanities and the impact it has in their classrooms. Elementary and secondary students study STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering, and math), art, western civilization, coding, literature, literacy skills, music, and drama. Students are not realizing their exposure to the humanities. They can enter college with a humanity major. It is a known fact that participation in the humanities prepares students to become effective communicators and problem-solvers.

Educators do not make a lot of money and take

their earned salary to supply materials, and resources for their students. The Arkansas Humanities Council (AHC) created the R.E.A.C.H. Grant for teachers to apply for funds to attend professional development conferences; for classroom/school humanities projects; and to take students on field trips, which may not/cannot occur with school funds. Their child's creative thinking, writing, and reading skills grow by participating in humanities events/activities. In addition, in rural areas of Arkansas, AHC partnered with the Arkansas Imagination Library, Dolly Parton's book gifting program, to present a mother's baby's first book, introducing literacy. The first week of March 2020, we lobbied our US Congressmen in Washington, D.C., to continue to provide funds to the National Endowment of the Humanities and AHC, explaining the implications of the funding on education in Arkansas. If you would like to donate to help K-12 students and teachers, please contact the Arkansas Humanities Council. What an impact you will make on the life of a child!

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*ON THE COVER: An engraving by Paul Revere printed in the Boston Globe depicting the bloody massacre in King Street, March 5, 1770.*

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# CONNECT

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# Connecting Courts To Communities

*Karen Steward, Public Education Coordinator, Supreme Court of Arkansas*

Every year, the Annenberg Public Policy Center conducts its Civics Knowledge Survey of adults, which focuses on the public's understanding of the U.S. Constitution and their government. In 2019, only two in five people were able to name all three branches of government. About 37% could not name one right guaranteed by the First Amendment.

Meanwhile, according to the National Assessment of Education Progress, also called The Nation's Report Card, only 23% of 8th graders were "proficient" in civics and government. And, the Woodrow Wilson Foundation notes that its surveys reveal that only 36% of Americans can pass the citizenship test that is part of the immigration process, which 97.5% of immigrants pass.

The Arkansas judicial branch, led by the Arkansas Supreme Court, is making an effort to change that. Its public education program partners with teachers, community groups, and others to foster public understanding of the role of the court system in our

government — its functions, programs and services, history, and relation to the other two branches of government.

Noting that an informed citizenry is essential to a healthy democracy, the public education program aims to make Arkansans familiar with the fundamentals of government so they are more likely to become engaged civic participants. The Court has established a series of ongoing public education initiatives.

## Appeals on Wheels

Twice per year, the Arkansas Supreme Court brings the court to the people. It travels to a city around the state to hear oral argument in a real-life case in that location. The program was established in 2002.

Students and other local residents have a chance to watch a court proceeding. Many of the students in these areas would otherwise not be able to travel to the courtroom in Little Rock, where the Supreme



Court regularly holds its proceedings, to watch an oral argument in person.

After oral argument, students are divided into groups and have a 20-minute question-and-answer session with a Supreme Court justice.

Most recently, the Court travelled to Harrison, Texarkana, and Arkadelphia. It will travel to Paragould this spring. In Texarkana, the Appeals on Wheels program made history when the Arkansas Supreme Court teamed up with the Texas Supreme Court for a two-day outreach effort, which included oral arguments at both Arkansas High School and Texas High School.

### Supreme Court Tours

Hundreds of student and community groups from across Arkansas visit the Justice Building every year. All tours include a presentation by a Supreme Court justice and a question-and-answer session afterward.

In addition to hosting groups from all over Arkansas, the Court hosts international visitors. It recently welcomed guests from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine.

### Social Media and Broadcasting

The Supreme Court connects with the public on social media and through broadcasting. The judiciary regularly posts videos, court opinions, and special publications to its Facebook and Twitter accounts.

A one-minute educational segment called Courts

& Community is also featured on social media. The segment aims to provide a quick and convenient way to learn about the judicial branch of government. Courts & Community also airs on public broadcasting stations throughout Arkansas.

You can find all of this information on Facebook and Twitter: @arcourts

### Judge Speakers

Arkansas judges welcome the opportunity to speak to the public about the court system. School or community groups of any grade or age can request to have a judge as a guest speaker. The program partners local communities with judges in their area.

In 2019, the Arkansas Supreme Court met its goal of arranging presentations in all of Arkansas's 75 counties.

### Events Throughout the Year

Judicial Outreach Week in March, Law Day in May, and Constitution Day in September serve as excellent opportunities for outreach events and initiatives. Past events include an art & essay contest, as well as events at schools and libraries.

### Contact The Court's Public Education Program

To learn more about any of the Arkansas Supreme Court's outreach initiatives, please contact the Public Education Coordinator, Karen Steward, at 501-410-1935 or [karen.steward@arcourts.gov](mailto:karen.steward@arcourts.gov)



# Interpreting the Hodges Collection and Caddo History for the Public

Mary Beth D. Trubitt, Ph.D., Archeologist

Arkansas Archeological Survey — Henderson State University Research Station



*The entryway to the Caddo Center on HSU's campus has exhibit cases and space for interpretive text, computer kiosk, and brochures (Arkansas Archeological Survey photograph).*

In the spring of 2019, staff from the Arkansas Archeological Survey's Henderson State University Research Station moved the Joint Educational Consortium's Hodges Collection of Native American Artifacts to permanent "open curation" in the renovated Caddo Center on HSU's Arkadelphia campus.



*Detail of a bear effigy bottle collected by Thomas and Charlotte Hodges (77-1/X-36, unknown provenience).*





*Museum studies intern Rae'Shawn Jones installs artifacts in the Caddo Center in 2019 (Arkansas Archeological Survey photograph).*



*Top view of design on compound bottle (JEC Hodges Collection, 77-1/X-328, unknown provenience).*

They were assisted by HSU students and volunteers from the Ouachita Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society. The Caddo Center is now open to visitors and for tours. This spring, a media mini-grant awarded by the Arkansas Humanities Council will be combined with a small grant from the Arkansas Archeological Society's Bill Jordan Public Education Fund to develop interpretation for the Caddo Center using twenty-first-century technologies.

The Hodges Collection is a large collection of artifacts, mainly from ancestral Caddo Indian archeological sites in Clark and Hot Spring counties. During the 1930s and 1940s, Thomas and Charlotte Hodges of Bismarck collected, excavated, and purchased artifacts from sites near their home as well as in Arkansas County in southeast Arkansas. They were interested in local archeology and history at a time when there were few professional archeologists in the state. In

1977, their collection was acquired by the Joint Educational Consortium, Inc., a cooperative venture between Henderson State University and Ouachita Baptist University. It has been curated by the Arkansas Archeological Survey's HSU Research Station since then. While small educational exhibits have been created using the collection, the bulk of the collection has been in closed curation until now.

With the Hodges Collection installed in a more visible and accessible location on the HSU campus, the current objective is to develop new ways of viewing and learning from these objects to engage a variety of visitors. The target audience includes students, faculty, and staff from both universities in Arkadelphia, as well as local residents and members of historical and archeological societies. The grants will be used to develop interpretive materials in several different media to connect with visitors at the Caddo

*continued on page 6*

Center, as well as virtually using the internet for those who cannot travel to Arkadelphia.

A small grant from the Arkansas Archeological Survey's Hester Davis Fund enabled Teka McGlothlin and Sarah Shepard to travel from the Survey's Fayetteville office to Arkadelphia in November 2019 to document Hodges Collection effigy vessels using innovative 3D scanning technology. The Arkansas Archeological Survey's 3D digital imaging lab has been funded in part by the Roy and Christine Sturgis Charitable and Educational Trust. The team documented 36 of most unique and fragile objects in the collection with high-resolution 3D models. The scanned artifacts range from a small duck head made of wood to a large pottery seed jar with modeled face, arms, and legs. The Arkansas Archeological Society grant will be used to purchase a touchscreen computer kiosk for the Caddo Center, allowing visitors to digitally view and manipulate 3D models of artifacts exhibited in the hall. Mary Beth Trubitt and HSU museum studies intern Emma Adams will work with Arkansas Archeological Survey webmaster Deborah Weddle to create new web pages with the 3D models and explanatory text. Arkansas Humanities Council grant funds will be used to purchase and program "near field communications" (NFC) tags that visitors can use to link their smartphones to web pages containing short audio-visual descriptions of selected artifacts. New educational web pages created for the Arkansas Archeological Survey's website will extend the audience range beyond the physical building to the general public via the internet.

Dr. Trubitt has consulted with humanities scholars Dr. Judith Stewart-Abernathy, retired director of Arkansas Tech Museum, and Tamara Francis, Chairman of the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, about audio-visual interpretation and visitor interaction. With Arkansas Humanities Council funding, Chairman Francis will travel from Oklahoma to Arkadelphia to consult with Joint Educational Consortium and Arkansas Archeological Survey staff about the Hodges Collection and its interpretation. Through these conversations, Caddo perspectives can be incorporated into the wall text and large-format graphics created for the Caddo Center hallway to provide visitors with an awareness of Caddo culture past and present. Trubitt and Adams will



*Teka McGlothlin and Sarah Shepard (Arkansas Archeological Survey) scan a Hodges Collection effigy bottle in the Caddo Center classroom (Arkansas Archeological Survey photograph).*

also develop text and images for a new printed brochure detailing the history and significance of the Hodges Collection. Currently, Trubitt is working with HSU Professor Margarita Peraza-Rugeley and students in her upper-level Spanish course to translate exhibit labels and create a Spanish-language brochure on Caddo history and archeology.

When Mrs. T. L. (Charlotte) Hodges transferred the Hodges Collection to the Joint Educational Consortium, it was her wish that these artifacts be preserved and made available for research and display in the area where they were found. Moving the collection to open curation in the Caddo Center is a step towards this goal. The 2020 grants from the Arkansas Humanities Council and the Arkansas Archeological Society fund new ways of visualizing, accessing, and understanding the Hodges Collection, using new technologies to relate objects from the past with Caddo people in the present. The Caddo Center on Henderson State University's campus is an educational resource for members of the university and local communities, and it will be accessible to more Arkansans who will visit and learn using the internet.

For information, contact Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt at [trubitm@hsu.edu](mailto:trubitm@hsu.edu) or 870-230-5510.



*This project is supported in part by a grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities.*



## Let's Go!

*Claudia Utley, Communications Director  
Economics Arkansas*

This summer, Arkansas teachers may earn professional development credit hours by taking a walk in a park. Literally.

Thanks to funding from the Arkansas Humanities Council, the non-profit educational organization Economics Arkansas will offer one-day teacher trainings at nine Arkansas State Parks this June and July. The workshops are free of charge to any Arkansas educator in grades Pre-K-12.

During the six-hour trainings, participants will study the history and economic impact of each host park. Upon successful completion, they will receive ready-to-use classroom activities and resources, lunch and a \$50 stipend. They will also earn six hours of professional development credit approved by the Arkansas Department of Education, including two hours of Arkansas history, which is mandatory for teachers for the 2020-21 school year.

"This series is an excellent example to illustrate that economics is indeed everywhere," said Marsha Masters, Associate Director of Economics Arkansas. "Economics is literally in every state park and in every neck of the woods. Teachers will learn to make the economic connections between their state park and their local community and share that knowledge in the classroom."

Workshop presentations will focus on the historic and cultural significance of the host site's park and region. These might include a discussion of Native American presence or agricultural value or the significance of a nearby battlefield. Other discussions will investigate the economic impact of each park, along with a team exercise challenging participants to research the human, natural and capital resources required to establish and maintain a new park. Rounding out the training will be conversations about how the history, language, art and culture found in the parks influences Arkansas as a state.



The workshops are expected to inspire participants to plan field trips with their students to the park locations once school is back in session.

Workshops are scheduled at the following locations:

- June 4, Jacksonport State Park, Newport
- June 16, Hobbs State Park, Rogers
- June 18, Lake Dardanelle State Park, Russellville
- June 23, Lake Fort Smith State Park, Fort Smith
- July 21, Pinnacle Mountain State Park, Little Rock
- July 23, Lake Chicot State Park, Lake Village
- July 27, Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources, Smackover
- July 28, Toltec Mounds Archaeological State Park, Scott
- A ninth location and date are still to be determined.

Registration is almost full, with just a few openings available at each park. More information and registration updates may be found at [www.economicsarkansas.org](http://www.economicsarkansas.org), "event calendar." Founded in 1962, Economics Arkansas is a non-profit educational organization that teaches educators in grades Pre-K-12 how to integrate economics and personal finance into the classroom curriculum. The organization trains about 2,800 teachers each year.

*The Arkansas Humanities Council, in partnership with Arkansas State Parks, is pleased to offer the Arkansas State Parks Field Trip Grant to teachers. For more info visit [arkansashumanitiescouncil.org](http://arkansashumanitiescouncil.org).*



# Thirty Ways to Celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the ADA

Melanie Thornton, Coordinator of Access and Equity Outreach  
University of Arkansas — Partners for Inclusive Communities



The ADA will turn 30 on July 26th of this year. What better way to celebrate than to move accessibility forward in your organization? There is no limit to the ways you can do so, but here are 30 ideas — one for each of the 30 years the ADA has been a civil rights law.

## LEARN ABOUT THE ADA

1. Gather your staff to watch a webinar on access and the ADA. You can find upcoming webinars from the ADA National Network Website at [adata.org](http://adata.org)
2. Participate in an ADA National Network Twitter Chat by following [#ADANetworkChat](https://twitter.com/ADANetworkChat).
3. Take the ADA Building Blocks course.
4. Take one of the online courses offered by the Rocky Mountain ADA.

## LEARN ABOUT DIGITAL ACCESS

5. Learn how to make your social media campaign accessible. Check out the Social Media Accessibility Toolkit at [exploreaccess.org](http://exploreaccess.org).
6. Learn to create accessible documents and PowerPoint presentations. You can also find a resource for this at [exploreaccess.org](http://exploreaccess.org)
7. Share resources on digital access with all those who have a part in creating websites for your organization.
8. Host a workshop on digital access for your organization. Contact Melanie Thornton at [mthornt@uark.edu](mailto:mthornt@uark.edu) to learn more.

## LEARN ABOUT THE DISABILITY RIGHTS MOVEMENT

9. Show the documentary *Lives Worth Living*, an historical documentary that traces the disability rights movement from the 1940s through the passage of the ADA.
10. Host a book club and read Judy Heumann's newly released book, *Being Heumann: An*

*Unrepentant Memoir of a Disability Rights Activist.*

## CHALLENGE YOUR ORGANIZATION'S PERCEPTION OF DISABILITY

11. Host a lunch and learn using one of these excellent TedTalks.
  - Stella Young: I'm not your inspiration, thank you very much.
  - Maysoon Zayid: I have 99 problems... and palsy is only one
12. Host a movie night. Watch a movie or documentary that challenges perceptions of disability. *My Left Foot, Fixed, Crip Camp, and Margarita with a Straw* are a few to consider.
13. Host an art display featuring a local disabled artist and activist from your area.
14. Invite a disability activist or performing artist to provide a presentation or performance.
15. Host a photography contest. Invite people with disabilities to take photos that show the barriers they typically face in your community.

## COMMUNICATE YOUR COMMITMENT TO ACCESS

16. Add a statement to your website that communicates your organization's commitment to creating an accessible website.

*Example: We are committed to creating an accessible website. If you encounter any barriers that result from the design of this site, please do not hesitate to contact us at [email].*

17. Make sure that your event announcements have information about accessibility.

*Example: [Our organization] values the inclusion of people with disabilities in our programs and activities. If you are a person with a disability and anticipate barriers to your full participation in this event, please contact [name, sponsoring organization] at [phone and email]. Please notify the us by [date] to request a sign language*



interpreter at the event.

- Put a statement on your brochures and printed materials explaining how to obtain an accessible digital format.

*Example: This document is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting [name, campus department] at [phone number and email]. An electronic version is available online: (Website address here).*

- Provide a method for reporting access barriers. Post a form online that allows employees and customers to report barriers. Make sure to have a plan for responding to these concerns and removing the barriers.

### ASSESS YOUR ORGANIZATION'S ACCESSIBILITY

- Use a free online tool to check your website for accessibility. You can check your website's accessibility using WAVE at [wave.webaim.org](http://wave.webaim.org).
- Check your building for barriers to access. Use the ADA Checklist at [adachecklist.org](http://adachecklist.org) to check the accessibility of your facility.
- See how you measure up with other businesses with the *Disability Equality Index*. Go to [disabilityin.org](http://disabilityin.org) to learn more.
- Perform a *TechCheck* to assess your organization's technology accessibility practices. *PEAT's TechCheck* can help give you a "snapshot" of the current state of your technology in terms of accessibility. Learn more at [peatworks.org](http://peatworks.org).
- Ask employees with disabilities what they think. Get input from employees with disabilities about how your organization is doing in its efforts to create an accessible and inclusive environment.

### RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT INCLUSION AND ACCESS

- Put up posters that promote access and inclusion. You can find some options at [exploreaccess.org](http://exploreaccess.org).

- Create a social media campaign that promotes access and inclusion and disability as an aspect of diversity.
- Post flyers to create a welcoming environment for people with disabilities who use service animals.

### MAKE A COMMITMENT TO IMPROVE ORGANIZATIONAL ACCESS

- Make a plan for increasing the accessibility of your website. Look at the results from your automated testing and determine where to start to improve the accessibility of your website.
- Identify an aspect of your building that you can make more accessible. Looking over your results from the ADA Checklist, pick a place to start removing barriers you discovered.
- Make changes to improve access and inclusion for employees. Is your online application process accessible? Is the process for employees to request accommodation easy to find? These are good places to start making changes to be more inclusive to employees with disabilities.

So no matter how you celebrate the anniversary of the ADA, we hope you will join us in working to remove that wall of exclusion ... together.

Access an interactive version of this article at [exploreaccess.org/ada30/](http://exploreaccess.org/ada30/) or contact Melanie Thornton at [mthornt@uark.edu](mailto:mthornt@uark.edu) for more information.



# Smithsonian Institution Museum on Main Street *Voices & Votes: Democracy in America* Exhibition Coming to Arkansas!

*The Arkansas Humanities Council is pleased to bring *Voices & Votes: Democracy in America* exhibition to Arkansas, June 6, 2020 through March 21, 2021.*

When American revolutionaries waged a war for independence, they took a leap of faith that sent ripple effects across generations. They embraced a radical idea of establishing a government that entrusted the power of the nation not in a monarchy, but in its citizens. That great leap sparked questions that continue to impact Americans: who has the right to vote, what are the freedoms and responsibilities of citizens, and whose voices will be heard? *Voices and Votes* will be a springboard for discussions about those very questions and how they are reflected in local stories.

Designed for small-town museums, libraries and cultural organizations, *Voices and Votes: Democracy in America* will serve as a community meeting place to convene conversations about what it means to live in a democracy, explore common questions that Americans ask today that were asked by past generations, and so much more. Host sites will develop complementary exhibits, host public programs, and facilitate educational initiatives to deepen people's understanding of our nation's democratic system.

The exhibition will explore historic events and pose questions for today in the following content areas:

- **The Great Leap:** Examine the context and main controversies behind America's democratic system. Learn the stories of our famous founders and those who remain mostly unknown. What were the principles and events that inspired the writers of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution? Just how revolutionary was our

new democracy led by the people? And who were "the people?"

- **A Vote, A Voice:** We have a diverse body of voters today, but not every American has always had the right to vote. The fight for fair representation, suffrage, and a voice at the polls has meant struggle and changes to law ever since our founding. Learn about these struggles, how voting was expanded, and continued challenges to getting the vote.

- **The Machinery of Democracy:** We participate in the political system through state and national parties, nomination conventions, and stomping for our candidate of choice. Learn about this machinery of democracy, how it calls us to be involved, but can also control how we get information about candidates and issues.

- **Beyond the Ballot:** Americans fight against injustice. Men and women of every ethnicity, class, and state have shared in the revolutionary spirit of rising up and speaking out. The First Amendment to the Constitution guarantees this right to peaceably assemble and petition the government. See the different places and different motivations of diverse Americans to petition for their interests and concerns.

- **Creating Citizens:** Who are "We the People?" What is the meaning of citizenship? Ever since the creation of the Constitution, Americans continue to interpret, expand, and shape the rights and responsibilities of being a citizen. Explore how those views of rights and responsibilities have shaped our national identity and our complex national story.

*"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."*

Declaration of Independence 1776





**June 6 – July 7, 2020**

Arkansas State Capitol  
Arkansas Secretary of State  
Public Relations Division  
500 Woodlane Avenue, Room 01  
Little Rock, AR. 72201  
Contact: Jen Hughes  
[Jen.hughes@sos.arkansas.gov](mailto:Jen.hughes@sos.arkansas.gov)

**July 28 – September 5, 2020**

Delta Gateway Museum  
210 W. Main Street  
Blytheville, AR. 72315  
Contact: Leslie Hester  
[Lhester43@yahoo.com](mailto:Lhester43@yahoo.com)

**September 12 – October 24, 2020**

Old Independence Regional Museum  
380 South Ninth Street  
Batesville, AR. 72501  
Contact: Twyla Wright  
[Oirm.grants@gmail.com](mailto:Oirm.grants@gmail.com)

**October 31 – December 12, 2020**

John Brown University  
2000 W. University  
Siloam Springs, AR. 71761  
Contact: Jacob Stratman  
[jstratman@jbu.edu](mailto:jstratman@jbu.edu)

**December 19, 2020 – January 31, 2021**

Arts & Science Center for Southeast  
Arkansas  
701 South Main Street  
Pine Bluff, AR. 71601  
Contact: Rachel Miller  
[rmiller@artssciencecenter.org](mailto:rmiller@artssciencecenter.org)

**February 6 – March 21, 2021**

Southern Arkansas University  
SAU Beyond the Campus  
113 North Jefferson, West Court Square  
Magnolia, AR. 71753  
Contact: Sheryl Edwards  
[saedwards@saumag.edu](mailto:saedwards@saumag.edu)

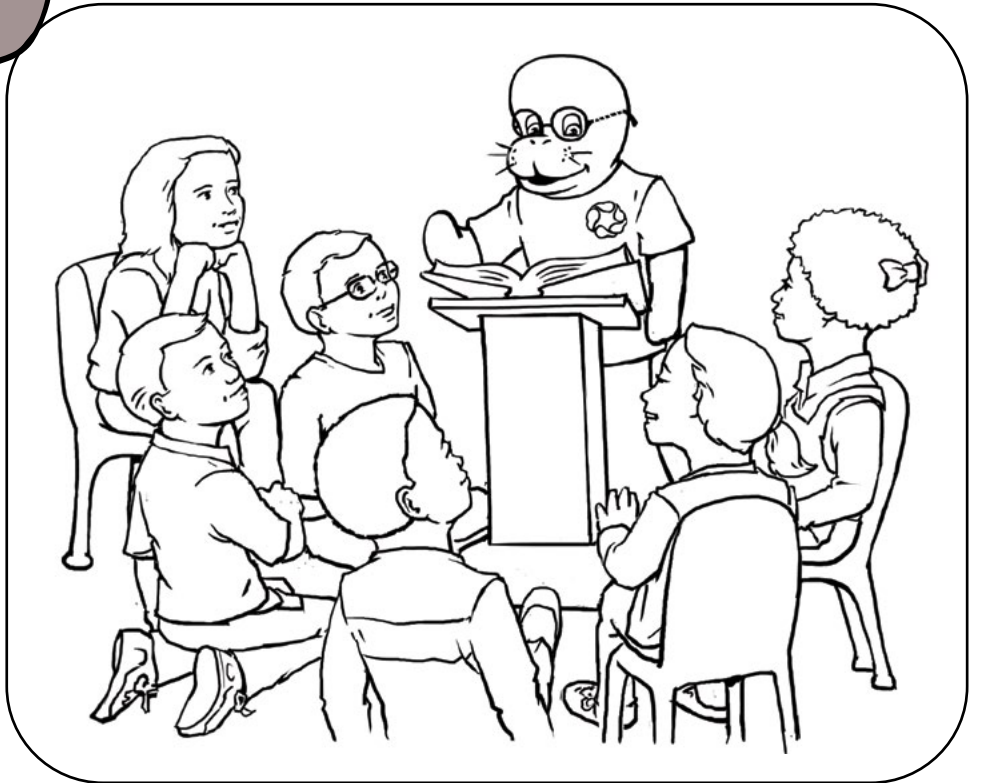




Hi kids! See if you can find all the differences between these two pictures!

## Hugh Manatee's Corner

Circle as many differences as you can find between the two pictures of Hugh reading to a group of kids.





# Virtual exhibit explores the Civilian Conservation Corps in Arkansas

Shannon Lausch, Multimedia Archivist, UA Little Rock Center for Arkansas History and Culture



CCC workers in front of their barracks at Camp Shiloh near Russellville.

The UA Little Rock Center for Arkansas History and Culture (CAHC) recently debuted a virtual exhibit commemorating the Civilian Conservation Corps in Arkansas. The website was made possible with funding from the Arkansas Humanities Council. Visitors can access the virtual exhibit at the following link: <https://ualrexhibits.org/ccc/> The Civilian Conservation Corps Act was passed by the United States Congress to provide economic relief in the midst of the Great Depression and to preserve and develop the natural resources of the nation. The program was one of the most successful New Deal programs to meet the needs of Arkansans who were suffering under the worst of the Depression.

At its peak in 1935, the state of Arkansas had sixty-five CCC camps with young men from all over the state and nation working on a number of projects. The most lasting legacy of the CCC in Arkansas was its work in developing and building state parks. In the early 1930s, there were no developed state parks in Arkansas. Petit Jean, Mt. Nebo, and Arkansas Post had been established in the 1920s, but the construction of state parks was augmented in the 1930s thanks to the work of the CCC.

The virtual exhibit features historical materials from the CAHC's collections, photographs of CCC-built structures remaining in Arkansas parks

today, essays from scholars around the state written for a broad audience, as well as educational resources based on Arkansas state curriculum standards.

Contributions from local archeologists, scientists, historians, educators, and students offer a diverse analysis of CCC's impact on Arkansas, from archaeological discoveries to tourism. Students provide an in-depth look of six state parks with original CCC constructed cabins, which include Petit Jean, Crowley's Ridge, Lake Catherine, Mt. Nebo, Devil's Den, and Buffalo Point.

Visitors to the website can also hear the voices of CCC veterans from an oral history project undertaken in the 1980s. CAHC digitized over 40 interviews, including an interview with folk singer Jimmy Driftwood.

Also featured are two yearbooks from the Arkansas camps, which provide names of the men who served and the activities of each company. The yearbooks are keyword searchable and available on the website and in our online catalog: [arstudies.com](http://arstudies.com).

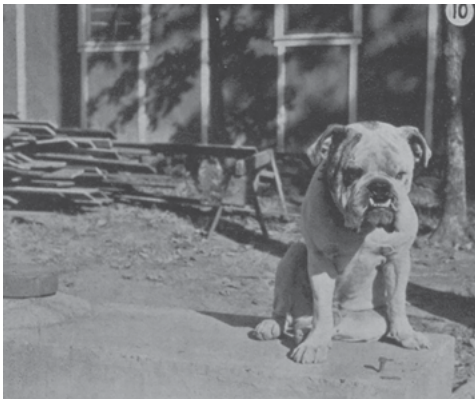
The Civilian Conservation Corps left a lasting legacy on Arkansas and guided its development as "The Natural State." For questions or more information about the website, please contact us at [cahc@ualr.edu](mailto:cahc@ualr.edu).

*continued on page 14*





Postcard for Petit Jean State Park.



Photos courtesy of the UA Little Rock Center for Arkansas History and Culture.



## Welcome New Board Members



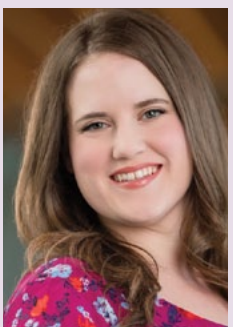
**Amelia Bowman** grew up in Bentonville, Arkansas. She attended Washington State University where she earned a Bachelor's degree in history. She earned her Master's degree in history with a public history emphasis from Arkansas State University. Since 2011, she has worked closely with the Old Independence Regional Museum in Batesville, first as a volunteer exhibits curator, then as a paid part-time director and educator. She currently serves as the Vice-President of the board. She also serves as Board Secretary for the Independence County Historical Society. In 2016, she became the assistant plan manager for her family's business, Bowman Handles, Inc., where she runs the day-to-day operations and manages a 12-person crew. She is eager to work with the staff and board of the AHC to promote the humanities in coming years.



**Kim Coryat** is a retired government archivist who spent the last 15 years processing presidential records for opening at the William J. Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock. She previously retired from the US Air Force as a master sergeant in 1994. After leaving the military, Kim attended Southern Vermont College for her undergraduate degree in liberal arts on the GI Bill and then graduate school for American history at the University of Vermont. She practices yoga and makes pottery, loves history and the arts, and wants to be a museum exhibit specialist "when she grows up."



**Jen Hughes**, Curator of the Arkansas State Capitol, oversees the historic collection, interprets and designs Arkansas-related exhibits and performs research for constituents and staff. Ms. Hughes has worked for the Secretary of State's office since 2007 as the Exhibits and Archives Specialist. Before coming to the Capitol, Ms. Hughes was the Registrar for the Metal Museum in Memphis. Ms. Hughes is a Certified Interpretive Guide with the National Association of Interpretation and former board member of the Arkansas Museums Association. She volunteers with the Cabot Foundation for Arts and Culture and Cub Scouts, and has lent her expertise to the Society of Southwest Archivists, Arkansas Historic Preservation and Greater Little Rock Museums and Cultural Attractions Consortium.



**Kaylin Mason** is Grants Manager for Walton Arts Center, a nonprofit performing arts center in Fayetteville, Arkansas. She has worked in the nonprofit sector for more than a decade, having held positions previously at University of Arkansas-Fayetteville and Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. As a grants professional, Kaylin has generated multi-millions in funding for the arts from federal granting agencies, foundations, and corporations. She is excited to experience the grants process from the funder side and for the opportunity to promote the humanities across the state as a board member for Arkansas Humanities Council. Kaylin received a Master of Arts in Journalism and a Bachelor of Arts in English & Journalism, both from the University of Arkansas. She lives in Fayetteville with her husband Brandon, daughter Moya, and new baby John Sawyer.

# Welcome New Board Members *continued*



**Tippi McCullough** is an Arkansas State Representative for District 33 in Little Rock. She was elected in November of 2018. She serves on the Revenue and Taxation Committee, Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative & Military Affairs committee, and Legislative Joint Auditing. She received her BSE at Ouachita Baptist University and MSE at Henderson State University. She grew up in Hot Springs, is a lifelong Arkansan and before entering public service spent thirty-three years of her life educating young people teaching English and coaching basketball at Kingston, Newport, Mountain Pine, Mount St. Mary Academy, and Little Rock Central High School. She has received awards for her work from the Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the ACLU, The Advocate, and the Arkansas Municipal League. She has lived in Little Rock for twenty years with spouse Barbara Mariani, a 6th Judicial District of Arkansas prosecutor, and enjoys reading, movies, traveling, hiking, and cycling.



**Dr. Jim Metzger**, a consulting economist, has worked for 40 years in the public finance and labor market research areas. As a principal of HISTECON Associates, Inc., he has conducted tax policy, labor, and human resource studies for private firms and public agencies, and he has appeared in federal court and labor-arbitration hearings concerning issues of employment discrimination, worker compensation, and job advancement and termination.

He holds a M.A. in Social Science (Economics Concentration) from the University of Chicago and a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Notre Dame. Jim formerly held positions as a research economist for Argonne National Laboratory and the U.S. Department of Labor-Region V. He has taught economics and statistics at Arizona State University, UA Little Rock, the Interational MBA program at Sichuan and Shanghai, China, and for the MBA program at Webster University.



**Dr. Rachel Miller** moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1994 from Ramstein, Germany. Her childhood living abroad afforded her the opportunity to explore different cultures, an experience that continues to heavily influence her writing and work in the field of cultural heritage. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Gender Studies and a Masters of Arts in Rhetoric & Writing from UA Little Rock. In 2014, Miller graduated from the Heritage Studies PhD program at Arkansas State University. For the past 16 years, Dr. Miller has created and managed educational outreach programs for state, city, and non-profit arts and cultural organizations. She also teaches writing and literature for university and non-traditional students. Dr. Miller has been the Executive Director for the Arts & Science Center for Southeast Arkansas since April 2017.



**Leatrice "Lea" Russ-Glenns**, Leatrice "Lea" Russ-Glenns grew up in Star City, Arkansas. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from UA Little Rock, a Masters of Art in Human Resource Development from Webster University, and a Master of Arts in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling from UA Little Rock. She holds a certification as a Biblical Counselor from the American Institute on Biblical Counseling. She is also a Certified Life Coach. Lea is married to Minister Lee Glenns and together they have 7 children, 17 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. She has been a member of Longley Baptist church for more than 36 years where she serves as Director of Counseling and Support Ministry, Women's Sunday school



teacher, and Dean of Longley School of Biblical Studies. Lea is an Adjunct Professor at Philander Smith College, serves as member at large for Volunteers in Public Schools (previously board President), and a member of the American Association of Christian Counselors. She is retired from a career with Southwestern Bell.



**Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis** is co-founder and president of Preservation of African American Cemeteries, Inc. (PAAC). She has served as the national president of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society (AAHGS) and was also a charter member of the Arkansas chapter of AAHGS. She is the recipient of several honors and awards, including the AAHGS James Dent Walker Honorary Lifetime Membership Award, the Association for Gravestone Studies Oakley Certificate of Merit, and the Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Advocacy Award presented by the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas. Currently, she serves as a board member of the Friends of the Arkansas State Archives and emphasizes the importance of preserving African American history and culture. As a graduate of Arkansas State University, she serves as the Scholarship Chair for the ASU Strong Turner Alumni Association. Residing in Little Rock, Tamela is a 40 year member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., daughter of Samuel & Evelyn Tenpenny, wife of Judious Lewis, and proud parent of Student Doctor, Taylor Lewis.



**Sydney Westbrook** was born and raised in Texarkana, Arkansas. She is a CPA and has worked in banking, pharmaceutical, public housing and electric service. Sydney currently lives in Texarkana, Arkansas and works at the Southwest Arkansas Electric Cooperative as Manager of Member Services. This position allows her to supervise employees and help members with issues concerning their electric service. She loves learning about history and especially about history in Arkansas. Sydney has been married 30 years and has 4 children and 9 grandchildren. She belongs to the Christ Church in Texarkana, Arkansas and enjoys traveling, camping and attending any event that involves her grandchildren.

## New Staff Highlight



The Arkansas Humanities Council is pleased to announce our newest staff member Katie Dailey who will serve as Operations Officer.

Katie holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and a Master of Arts in Nonprofit Studies from Arizona State University. Katie brings a wealth of knowledge, financial expertise, and management skills to the position. In Katie's most recent role of Chief Operations Officer of Girl Scouts – Diamonds, she oversaw four departments, managed budgets for each, co-developed a cross functional three-year strategic plan, developed assessment tools, and collected interpretive data to assist in program development and fund acquisition. She is an outdoor enthusiast, loves to travel, and is a dog mom to two special pups.

We are so happy to have Katie on board and know she will be a valuable addition.

# Major Grants Awards 2019

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- AHC Mini grants and Major grants are available to non-profit organizations with 501c3 status.
- Funds may be used for humanities projects for Arkansas audiences.
- Decisions on grant awards are made by the Council Board.

### **Art in the Stacks**

Organization: Arkansas Arts Center Foundation  
Project Director: Devin Hancock  
Award: \$5,000

Arkansas Arts Center will partner with the Central Arkansas Library System and Culture Connect. This partnership will develop a digital platform that offers the public free opportunities to learn and interact with AAC exhibitions on display at 15 CALS branches using smartphones or tablets made available for check-out by CALS.

### **Economics: A Walk in the Park**

Organization: Arkansas Council on Economic Education  
Project Director: Ginsie Higgs  
Award: \$9,085

“Economics: A Walk in the Park” is a series of 9 teacher workshops to be hosted at different AR State Parks. Working with individual parks, the training day will be divided with a portion of the content devoted to the specific park and the remainder of the day around making economic connections to the park.

### **Arkansas Historical Association Annual Conference 2020**

Organization: Arkansas Historical Association  
Project Director: Donna Ludlow  
Award: \$4,000

The 2020 conference theme is “Arkansas Without Barriers: Pursuing Equity in the Land of Opportunity,” and considers diverse Arkansans’ pursuit of better lives and improved communities, focusing especially on the history of disability advocacy and assistance.

### **The Crossroad Festival: Exploring Jefferson County & Southeast Arkansas’s Cultural Heritage**

Organization: Arts & Science Center for Southeast Arkansas  
Project Director: Chaney Jewell  
Award: \$4,840

The 2020 Crossroad Festival is a 1-day event exploring Jefferson Co. and SEARK’s diverse cultural heritage through the interpretative lens of oral history, music, & performing arts.

### **Six Bridges Book Festival**

Organization: Central Arkansas Library System  
Project Director: Mark Christ  
Award: \$9,500

Six Bridges Book Festival will include activities held at Library Square in Little Rock and at area churches, museums, restaurants and other venues. Over sixty authors will participate.

### **15th Annual Books in Bloom Literary Festival**

Organization: Carroll and Madison Public Library System  
Project Director: Jean Elderwind  
Award: \$6,559

Books in Bloom Literary Festival is a FREE event open to the public. Each of the four featured authors will speak about their writing process, road to publishing, and future writing projects.

### **Celebrate! Maya Project Lecture Series**

Organization: Celebrate! Maya Project  
Project Director: Janis Kearney  
Award: \$7,052

Noted Arkansas scholars in music, writing, poetry and literacy advocacy will share stories on how to help build communities.



## Hank Willis Thomas: All Things Being Equal...

Organization: Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art

Project Director: Juli Goss

Award: \$10,000

“Hank Willis Thomas: All Things Being Equal...” is a thorough and scholarly exhibition that challenges the viewer with issues concerning race, difference, and inequality in America through the power of art.

## Delta Agriculture Interpretive Video

Organization: Delta Gateway Museum Association

Project Director: Leslie Hester

Award: \$2,136

The 5-minute interpretive video will be part of the museum’s new permanent Delta agriculture exhibit. The video explains the development of agriculture and historic farming practices in the Arkansas Delta.

## Behind the Big House

Organization: Preserve Arkansas

Project Director: Rachel Patton

Award: \$9,718

Behind the Big House will explore extant slave dwellings and the experiences of enslaved people. The event will feature a workshop for 150 5th graders from eSTEM Charter School in Little Rock with 3 activity stations on Historic Arkansas Museum grounds.

## 2020 Arts & Letters Radio Broadcast/Podcast

Organization: University of Arkansas Foundation

Project Director: J. Bradley Minnick

Award: \$10,000

Arts & Letters will create 10 episodes that celebrate the humanities, particularly in Arkansas. It will highlight the writing, research, publishing, and scholarship of the arts (music, theatre, creative writing) and letters (humanities, social sciences, and education) featuring Arkansas scholars. It represents the best intellectual aspects of our community and state, combining multiple diverse voices and original regional music to showcase the importance of the humanities.

# Arkansas State Parks Field Trip Grants

January 2019-February 2020  
Total ASP grants awarded: \$13,130

## SCHOOLS

Acorn Elementary School  
Cutter Morning Star High School  
Dover High School  
Dwight Elementary  
Elmer H. Cook Elementary School  
Fairview Elementary  
Hellstern Middle School  
Hot Springs Junior Academy  
Huntsville Intermediate School  
Kimmons Junior High School  
Malvern Middle School  
Malvern Elementary School  
Northside High School  
Ode Maddox Elementary School  
Ozark High School

Strong-Hutting School District  
Sylvan Hills High School  
Wilson Intermediate School

## CITIES

Dover  
Fort Smith  
Hot Springs  
Huntsville  
Malvern  
Mena  
Ozark  
Russellville  
Sherwood  
Sprindale  
Strong  
Texarkana



# Mini Grants Awards 2020

## **ALHA “Visioning our Past in the Present “ Annual Conference**

Organization: Arkansas Living History Association  
Project Director: Josh Williams  
Award: \$459

The three-day conference includes workshops and sessions covering best practices and case studies related to various aspects of providing living history presentations to the public.

## **Overcoming Obstacles: Mike Anderson, Lillian Mickel and the Economic Impact of Photography in Early**

Organization: Arkansas Tech University  
Project Director: James Peck  
Award: \$2,000

Photographs by Lillian Mickel (1909-1986) will be exhibited, and related public programs will be offered. Lillian Mickel was the first woman to fully own and operate a professional photography studio in Arkansas. Her photos document the history of Johnson County over four decades.

## **First Person Plural: Oral Histories of Arkansas Women**

Organization: Just Communities of Arkansas  
Project Director: Jo Blatti  
Award: \$1,885

This oral history project documents the life stories of diverse women who came of age in the mid-20th century during the civil rights movement.

## **Project Page Completion on Pryor Center Website for Northwest Arkansas Oral History Project**

Organization: Northwest Arkansas Oral History Project  
Project Director: Connie Fetters  
Award: \$2,000

NWAOHP volunteers and the Pryor Center will collaborate to design a web page for oral histories collected by the NWAOHP to be included on the Pryor Center’s website.

## **Remember When ... A Series of Oral Histories on Film**

Organization: People Helping Others Excel By Example  
Project Director: Cheryl Batts  
Award: \$1,655

Youth will collect and share oral histories from community members: Cornelious Hollnshed, Jr. a 3rd generation farmer, Margie Anderson, domestic worker, Leon Massey, pastor and local city/church historian, William Maxwell, educator, and Henry Glover, Songwriter (from Hot Springs (May 21, 1921 – April 7, 1991). Oral histories will be shared at a public program on November 21, 2020.

## **Interpreting the Hodges Collection and Caddo History for the Public**

Organization: UA - Arkansas Archeological Survey  
Project Director: Rachel Whitman  
Award: \$2,000

The Hodges Collection, acquired by HSU and Ouachita Baptist University’s Joint Educational Consortium (JEC) in 1977 and curated by the Arkansas Archeological Survey (ARAS), was moved to “open curation” in the Caddo Center in 2019. Exhibit interpretation will be planned using different media to engage students and community visitors with these objects and with Caddo history.

## **The Latino Experience: Azahares**

Organization: University of Arkansas - Fort Smith  
Project Director: Mary Sobhani  
Award: \$2,000

This public program celebrates the Latino experience as expressed through the creative written and visual texts of Azahares, UAFS’s Spanish Language literary magazine.



# Raising Education Achievement and Competence in the Humanities (R.E.A.C.H.) Grants

## 2020 National Council for History Education Conference

Organization: Cutter Morning Star High School  
Project Director: Vickie Johnston  
Award: \$1,572

Grant recipient will attend the National Council for History Education Conference which provides content and pedagogy, information, and inspiration to K-12 history teachers.

## Amazing History

Organization: Ouachita River School District  
Project Director: Kathy Rusert  
Award: \$2,506

Amazing History will provide hands-on cultural experiences in art, history, and literature relating to the history of chocolate. Thirty-two K-2 students and 6 chaperones will travel to Bentonville to visit Amazeum Museum to participate in an interactive historical program about the history of chocolate.

## Engaging Empathy Presentations for NCHE and NAEA

Organization: Bentonville Schools  
Project Director: Julie Griggs  
Award: \$2,030

Organization: Bentonville Schools  
Project Director: Heather Hooks  
Award: \$2,030

Teachers will participate in the National Council for History Education Conference engaging in arts-enriched curriculum to strengthen literacy and empathy

## Giant Map of Arkansas

Organization: West Fork Middle School  
Project Director: Jessica McMullen  
Award: \$844.18

The objective of the project is to get students to look at why populations change, specifically as it relates to technology advancements and economic activities.

## Learning and Celebrating John H. Johnson Holiday through Reading and Writing

Organization: McGehee School District  
Project Director: Michelle Robinson  
Award: \$2,717

Students will celebrate the life and legacy of John H. Johnson. McGehee Elementary students will explore the John H. Johnson Museum in Arkansas City, learn about Mr. Johnson from author, Dr. Margena A. Christian; participate in an art contest where art, reading and writing are tied to reading comprehension; and read Dr. Christian's book: Empire the House That John H. Johnson Built.

For more information about  
Arkansas Humanities Council grants visit  
[arkansashumanitiescouncil.org](http://arkansashumanitiescouncil.org)  
or contact us at 501-353-0349.

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# Access to the Humanities: Celebrating 30 Years of the ADA

*Melanie Thornton*

*Coordinator of Access and Equity Outreach*

*University of Arkansas — Partners for Inclusive Communities*

July 26th will mark 30 years since the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law by President George H. W. Bush. One of our most comprehensive civil rights laws, the ADA prohibits discrimination people with disabilities. It also guarantees people with disabilities access to the same opportunities available to nondisabled people.

Though much has improved since the passage of the ADA, people with disabilities continue to experience discrimination and lack of access. People with disabilities face disparities in employment, income, education and access to health care. A part of the challenge is that many people in our society continue to view providing access to people with disabilities as a charitable act. This mindset results in people being reactive rather than proactive and believing it is okay to pick and choose when and how to provide access. The ADA stands to remind us that access is instead a civil right — a matter of social justice. As organizations make this shift in perception, we will come closer to achieving the vision of the ADA.

Organizations that promote the humanities and



share humanities content have an opportunity to help create this vision by providing full access to people with disabilities who seek a degree in the humanities, or to visit their museums and websites.

On the historic day that President George H.W. Bush signed the ADA into law, he said, "Let the shameful wall of exclusion finally come tumbling down." We still have a lot of work to do to tear down that wall of exclusion. And the truth is that it takes all of us doing our part to bring it down and to replace it with a culture of access and inclusion.

Visit the ADA National Network website at [adata.org](http://adata.org) to learn more about the ADA.