



# Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Newsletter

May 2017, Vols. 1 & 2

## Special Tributes to President Gerald R. Ford and First Lady Betty Ford



President Donald J. Trump Visits the *USS Gerald R. Ford* (CVN 78) on March 2, 2017



America's First Ladies: An Enduring Legacy, April 11, 2017  
(l-r) Susan Ford Bales, Mary Jean Eisenhower and Lisa McCubbin

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*Letter from the Executive Director,  
Joseph S. Calvaruso*



Joe Calvaruso at the First Ladies luncheon on April 11, 2017.

April 8 marked Mrs. Betty Ford's 99<sup>th</sup> birthday. I want to thank Hank and Liesel Meijer for their support and insights that made this year's sold-out tribute so spectacular. Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park once again was the perfect venue for the tribute. The discussion with Mary Jean Eisenhower and Susan Ford Bales, moderated by Lisa McCubbin, capped off a delightful tribute to Mrs. Ford and other First Ladies.

President Donald J. Trump visited the *USS Gerald R. Ford* (CVN 78) on March 2. Following a tour of the aircraft carrier,

President Trump addressed a filled-to-capacity Hangar Bay. He addressed the Ford's sailors and shipbuilders from Newport News Shipbuilding. President Trump reflected on President Ford's wonderful legacy, as embodied in the *USS Gerald R. Ford*.

The Foundation and the National Geographic Society have launched a new online resource dedicated to the life and service of the nation's 38<sup>th</sup> President. The interactive resources follow last year's debut of the full-length documentary, "Gerald R. Ford: A Test of Character," which debuted on the National Geographic Channel. The resources are available at National Geographic's website. [www.nationalgeographic.org/education/Gerald-r-ford](http://www.nationalgeographic.org/education/Gerald-r-ford).

The documentary and online resources were made possible by funds provided by personal friends of President Ford and Foundation Trustees Peter Secchia, Doug DeVos, and Hank Meijer. Thank you to Peter, Doug, and Hank!

The permanent museum exhibit and DeVos Learning Center were nominated by the Grand Rapids Business Journal for Newsmaker of the Year in the Arts and Entertainment category. This recognition is a reflection of the great partnership among all those involved in the multi-year effort.

It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to Foundation Trustee and friend William T. Coleman who passed away at the age of 96 at his home in Arlington, VA on March 31, 2017. He will be greatly missed by all.

Finally, and most importantly, I especially want to recognize the generous time put forth by so many of our Trustees and volunteers that serve the Foundation in so many ways. Our ability to champion President Ford's extraordinary legacy would not be possible without their tireless support. It is an honor to work with each of them and the Foundation's countless other supporters. Thank you!

*Joe*

*In Memoriam*

William T. Coleman

Throughout his long career, Trustee William T. Coleman was often at the forefront of major public events, legal battles and significant social advances. In 1948, he became the first African American to serve as a law clerk to a Supreme Court justice, and within two years he was working alongside Thurgood Marshall of the NAACP's Legal Defense Fund on major desegregation cases.

On March 7, 1975 he was sworn in as the Secretary of Transportation during the administration of President Gerald R. Ford. After the Ford Administration he returned to practicing law and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Bill Clinton in 1995. His counsel was sought by every president from Dwight D. Eisenhower to George W. Bush. "He opened many, many doors and, by example, showed how absurd discrimination really is," Supreme Court Justice Stephen G. Breyer told the *Philadelphia Inquirer* in 2010. "It is important that people who don't know him understand what he has done."



## President Donald Trump Visits the *USS Gerald R. Ford* (CVN 78)

President Donald Trump visited the *USS Gerald R. Ford* (CVN 78) on March 2 at the Newport News Shipyard.

The President traveled to the aircraft carrier on Marine One, accompanied by Defense Secretary James Mattis, and was greeted on the Flight Deck by Ship Sponsor Susan Ford Bales, CVN 78 Commanding Officer Captain Rick McCormack, and Mike Petters, President of Huntington Ingalls Industries. The President, Susan, Secretary Mattis, and Captain McCormack participated in a round-table discussion in the ship's Inport Cabin with a group of crew members and shipbuilders, following which the President toured various areas of the ship. The President and Susan, along with Secretary Mattis, Chief of Naval Operations Admiral

John Richardson, and Captain McCormack, then proceeded to the Hangar Bay via a dramatic entrance on one of the ship's giant aircraft elevators.

In her introduction of President Trump, Susan noted, "To those who threaten our homeland or our liberties, let the word go forth – very soon 100,000 tons of the most powerful warship ever known will report for duty to her Commander In Chief. Congratulations, shipbuilders and crew members -- and Godspeed." During his remarks to the several thousand shipbuilders and crew members, President Trump thanked Susan for her service as the Ship Sponsor and paid tribute to President Ford and Mrs. Betty Ford, "Susan, I am so glad you could be with us.

I know how hard you've worked on this ship – seventeen visits - amazing! They told me you've wanted everything done right in honor of both of your parents who were *great, great* people! ... The soon-to-be commissioned *USS Gerald R. Ford* ... will not only be a great symbol of American strength, but a great legacy for your father, and our former President, Gerald Ford. President Ford was a Navy man - by the way, he was also a *great* athlete, for those of you that didn't know. He saw action in the South Pacific during World War II. He served this country with honor -- in the military, in Congress, and in the White House. The proud dignity of this ship is a fitting tribute to Gerald Ford -- the man and the President."

*Photos courtesy of Huntington Ingalls Industries.*



Inport Cabin Meeting with President Trump.



President Trump is greeted by crew members of *USS Gerald R. Ford*.



The *USS Gerald R. Ford* (CVN 78) aircraft carrier headed to sea on April 13, 2017 for the first time. The ship set out for its first sea trials in which its systems were tested. Known as Builder's Sea Trials, the ship's technologies were tested by U.S. Navy and Newport News Shipbuilding personnel and observed by the Navy's Supervisor of Shipbuilding and Naval Sea Systems Command staff. (Photo courtesy of Newport News Shipbuilding / Huntington Ingalls Industries.)

## President Ford Remembered

On the morning of December 26, 2016 the staff from the Museum and Foundation gathered together and placed a wreath and flowers at the tomb of President and Mrs. Ford. Ten years have passed since President Ford passed away at his home in Rancho Mirage, California. Though members of the Ford family were unable to attend the ceremony, President Ford's eldest son, Michael Ford, expressed thanks to members of the Grand Rapids community, state and nation for their thoughts and prayers.

*"Though my siblings and I are sure to shed tears on this day, we know Dad's and Mom's legacies live on among us. On this day our families will prayerfully and privately remember the many good times we shared together with Dad and Mom." ~ Michael Ford*



The tomb of President Gerald R. Ford and First Lady Betty Ford.

## Yellowstone History: 40th Anniversary of President Ford's Speech At Old Faithful August 29, 2016

It was not the president's first time in the Park. Indeed, in 1936, following his graduation from the University of Michigan and forty years before returning to the Park to speak as president, Gerald Ford worked for a summer as a park ranger, a job he cherished *and one he discussed in his remarks at Yellowstone National Park on August 29, 1976.*

"For many families it means one last chance to get out of town, out into the sun, under the stars, close to nature's beauties and nature's creatures. For me this is a moment that I have been looking forward to for a long, long time—to return to Yellowstone where I spent one of the greatest summers of my life. Being a seasonal park ranger—we used to call them 90-day wonders, maybe they still do—[laughter]—it was one of the most challenging experiences, one of the greatest jobs I ever had following my graduation from the University of Michigan. Now it seems more like fun than hard work, though we had plenty of both".

According to the Yellowstone Park Foundation, one of President Ford's duties was working as an armed guard on a bear feeding truck, back when bear feeding was a common Yellowstone activity. Jokingly, Ford told the crowd that, "maybe I overdid those bedtime stories" told to his children about his time as a ranger, but something about them stuck. Indeed, son Jack Ford went on to become a park ranger in Yellowstone.

Ford's speech carried significance beyond his own personal experience. He was speaking during America's Bicentennial, and his speech at Old Faithful highlighted every aspect of Yellowstone's vast treasures, which every American should cherish. Accordingly, as President Ford spoke of American treasures, Old Faithful started erupting to the delight of both the President and the crowd, "I always knew the Park Service was efficient and effective, and they really proved it just a moment ago," Ford



quipped, as Old Faithful's plume rocketed up (photo above).

President Ford also discussed national business during his speech, saying the Bicentennial should serve as more than a reflection of 200 years of nationhood and the meaning thereof; the Bicentennial, the President urged, should inspire commitment to future Americans—commitments like the further preservation (and expansion) of the national park system. From Ford's speech:

"We have had a wonderful Bicentennial. We celebrated what our patriotic founders and our immigrant ancestors handed down to us. We renewed our vows to their vision of freedom and equality. But I found myself saying we ought to do more. Can't we do something special, as our Bicentennial birthday present to future generations, a gift that will be gratefully remembered 100 years from now? We can.

I, therefore, decided upon a 10-year national commitment to double America's heritage of national parks, recreation areas, wildlife sanctuaries, urban parks, and historic sites.

I will send to the Congress, Tuesday, a Bicentennial Land Heritage Act, which calls for a pledge of \$1.5 billion during the next 10 years. It will more than double our present acreage of land for national parks, recreation areas, and wildlife

sanctuaries; beginning development of these new lands to make them accessible and enjoyable; improving facilities and increasing dedicated personnel at existing national parks; making available \$200 million for urban parks; bringing the benefits of nature to those who live in our cities; and accelerating the development of parklands and sanctuaries now delayed for lack of manpower and of money. This national commitment means we may have to tighten our belts elsewhere a bit, but it is the soundest investment in the future of America that I can envision. We must act now to prevent the loss of treasures that can never be replaced for ourselves, our children, and for future generations of Americans".

U.S. Senator Henry M. Jackson (D-WA) cosponsored the Bicentennial Land Heritage Act when it was introduced to the Senate September 7, 1976. According to Congress.gov, the bill never made it out of committee.

President Ford closed out his speech by referring back to his ranger days, and called once more for Yellowstone to be preserved:

"I remember as a ranger the first time I stood alone on Inspiration Point over at Canyon Station looking out over this beautiful land. I thought to myself how lucky I was that my parents' and grandparents' generation had the vision and the determination to save it for us.

Now it is our turn to make our own gift outright to those who will come after us, 15 years, 40 years, 100 years from now. I want to be as faithful to my grandchildren's generation as Old Faithful has been to ours. What better way can we add a new dimension to our third century of freedom? Thank you very much."

*Article originally appeared on the Yellowstone Insider ([yellowstoneinsider.com](http://yellowstoneinsider.com)) website; reprinted with permission.*



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum unveiled its newest addition to the Museum's World War II exhibit on January 11, 2017. The 24-inch maquette of Lieutenant Commander Gerald R. Ford is a scaled version of the seven-foot statue that is now positioned aboard the *USS Gerald R. Ford* (CVN 78) aircraft carrier. The statue was composed by sculptor Brett Grill, a Grand Rapids native. Grill also sculpted the Gerald R. Ford statues that now reside at the US Capitol in Washington D.C. and at the front entrance of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

## 2017 NCAA President Gerald R. Ford Award

Grant Hill, Atlanta Hawks Basketball Club co-owner and Vice Chairman of the Board, was named the 2017 recipient of the NCAA President Gerald R. Ford Award and donated the accompanying \$25,000 honorarium to Atlanta's Morehouse College. The award honors an individual who has provided significant leadership as an advocate for college sports. Hill received the award at the NCAA Convention in Nashville on January 20 and served as the convention's keynote speaker.

"The NCAA President Gerald R. Ford Award is a tremendous honor, and I am humbled to be in such great company with past honorees, including Coach (John) Wooden, Coach (Pat) Summitt and Billie Jean King," Hill said in a statement. "I cherish my four years at Duke and truly appreciate how much I grew as a person and player in that time. I am fortunate to have benefited from the experience, guidance and mentorship of such great professors, coaches, administrators, classmates and, of course, my parents. Collegiate athletics teaches us to lead by example, and it is my ambition to continue to lead by example for generations to come."



NCAA President Mark Emmert (left) presents the Atlanta Hawks co-owner Grant Hill with the 2017 NCAA President Gerald R. Ford Award.



## 2016 Remington Trophy "Gerald R. Ford Legends Award" Presented to Carl Mauck, January 14, 2017



Carl Mauck's NFL career spans 34 years as both a player and a coach. During his 13 years as a center, he played with the Colts, Dolphins, Chargers, and Oilers and then continued his time with the NFL as an Offensive Line coach. Starting at Hamilton County High School, Mauck's football career led him to Southern Illinois University and then to the NFL where he encountered some of the best coaches and players in the game. Some of the greats he encountered over the years were Johnny Unitas, Bob Griese, Dan Fouts, Ken Stabler, Paul Warfield, and Earl Campbell, among countless others.

Upon his retirement from playing in the NFL, Mauck was prepared to do a radio show, but was contacted several weeks before it began by Bum Phillips, head coach of the New Orleans Saints, about an offensive line coach opening. Mauck agreed to try the job on for fit – and the rest is history. His coaching career led him to seven different NFL teams and a Super Bowl visit.

In the summer of 2005, The Remington Trophy and the office of President Gerald R. Ford announced the creation of the Gerald R. Ford Legends Award. President Ford was the first recipient of the annual award that would bear his name for future winners.

The award is presented to former collegiate or professional centers who, in addition to standout football careers, have also made significant contributions to the football and/or business communities, or through philanthropic endeavors. *Courtesy of Remington Trophy.*

# Mary Jean Eisenhower America's First Ladies: An Enduring Legacy

April 11, 2017



On April 11, 2017, a capacity crowd gathered to celebrate First Lady Betty Ford's 99th birthday at the 5th Annual *America's First Ladies: An Enduring Legacy* luncheon at the Fredrick Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park. This year award-winning journalist Lisa McCubbin (right) moderated a discussion between Mary Jean Eisenhower (center), Granddaughter of President Dwight D. Eisenhower and First Lady Mamie Eisenhower and President and Mrs. Ford's daughter Susan Ford Bales (left). The discussion delighted the audience with stories of family life in the White House. Previous year's speakers include First Lady Barbara Bush, First Lady Laura Bush, First Lady Rosalynn Carter, Dr. Lynne Cheney and Vice President Dick Cheney, and Cokie Roberts. A video of the discussion can be found on the Foundation's website: [geraldrfordfoundation.org](http://geraldrfordfoundation.org)



**Left:** Liesel Meijer welcomes attendees to the luncheon. **Above:** Mary Jean Eisenhower during luncheon discussion. **Above Right:** Dr. Judy Smith, Chief of Spectrum Health Cancer Center, reflects on the life of First Lady Betty Ford and the progress made in the fight against breast cancer. **Right:** (l-r) Roger Snider, Trustee Susan Ford Bales, Mary Jean Eisenhower, Salvation Army's Major Claire Grainger, who presented the luncheon Invocation, and Lisa McCubbin.





**Above Left:** (l-r) Former Secret Service Agent Clint Hill, Mary Jean Eisenhower, and Lisa McCubbin during their visit to the Butterfly House at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park prior to the luncheon. **Center:** Mary Jean Eisenhower and Lisa McCubbin in the Butterfly House. **Above Right:** (l-r) Lisa McCubbin, Dr. Robert M. Humphries and Clint Hill prior to the luncheon. **Right:** Mary Jean Eisenhower signs the visitors book in President Ford's Foundation office during her visit to the Museum. **Below:** Mary Jean Eisenhower tours the Museum with Curator Don Holloway.

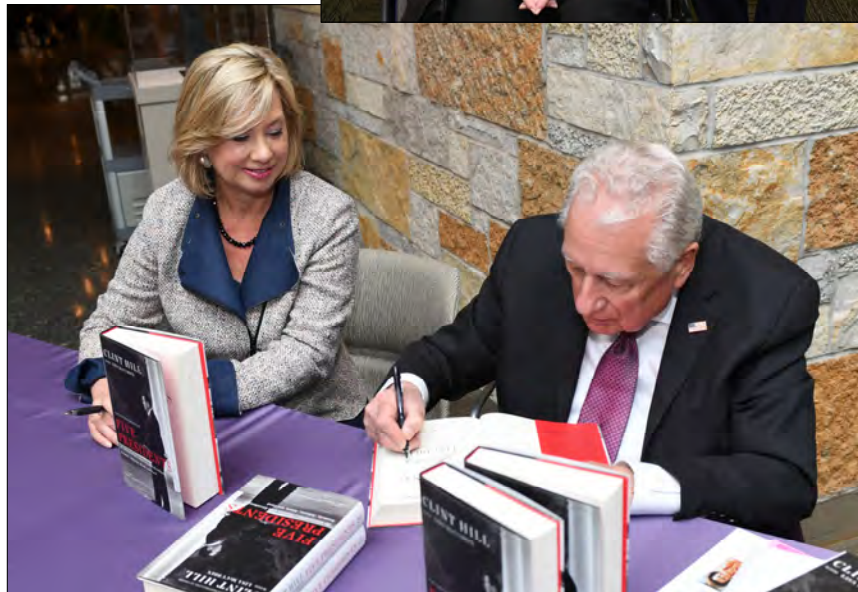


**Above & Right Photos:** (l-r) Trustee Susan Ford Bales, Mary Jean Eisenhower and Lisa McCubbin visit with Dr. Tammy Huizenga (above far right) and Lena Meijer (seated right) at the reception prior to the luncheon.



**Above:** (l-r) Trustee Susan Ford Bales, Mary Jean Eisenhower, Lisa McCubbin, and Foundation Trustee Bob Hooker. **Right:** Following the luncheon Lisa McCubbin and Clint Hill autographed their *New York Times* bestseller "Five Presidents" for luncheon attendees.

All First Ladies Luncheon, Reception, Museum Tour, and Butterfly House photos are courtesy of Dr. Robert M. Humphries.



## DeVos Learning Center Activities

*We hope you enjoy learning about a few of the many educational programs available at the DeVos Learning Center at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. The Learning Center continues to be a hub of activity and enjoyed by all!*

### Students Become High-Tech Biographers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

As part of the Foundation's newly developed educational programming, students are becoming authors of their very own eBooks. After a class discussion about the character traits of President Ford, students are led on a tour of the museum to discover more about the life events that affected him and how he relied upon his character later when faced with challenges.

The tour becomes engaging and purposeful when students are given a special task: create an eBook about President Ford's character traits using the information they find in the Museum. Students take photos of artifacts (**photos right**) and add their own text and creativity to produce a biography using a book-creating app on tablets provided by the Foundation.

After returning to the DeVos Learning Center classrooms, the young biographers present their books to their classmates and can even upload them to their student accounts to be shared later with teachers, families, and other students. Visiting teachers have enjoyed this activity, commenting that creating the books keeps the students engaged and helps them to interact with the Museum exhibits, all while learning new information about President Ford and the importance of good character.



DeVos Learning Center

DeVos Learning Center



Boy Scouts STEM Award Badge

### NASA NOVA Day at the Museum Saturday, February 25, 2017

The Museum was approached last fall by the Boy Scouts of Michigan about possible STEM programming in conjunction with the exhibit, SPACE: A Journey to Our Future.

The first program, NASA NOVA Day at the Gerald R. Ford Museum was held on Saturday, February 25, giving Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts an opportunity to earn the STEM Nova Science Everywhere Award and STEM Nova Shoot! Award, respectively. In addition to touring the exhibit, Scouts learned about Gerald Ford's ongoing interest and involvement in the U.S. Space program throughout his career and participated in a variety of hands-on activities at the DeVos Learning Center.

### Full-Day Specialized Programming for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts

"The three great principals which scouting encourages — self-discipline, teamwork and moral and patriotic values—are the building blocks of character." These words, spoken by President and Eagle Scout Gerald R. Ford, are precisely the reason the Foundation offers specialized programming for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. These full-day programs give Scouts a chance to participate in engaging, hands-on activities in a unique setting as they learn about character and leadership through the examples of President and Mrs. Ford.

Boy Scouts learn the importance of civic engagement by investigating President Ford's life story and by writing letters to their elected officials to earn their Citizenship in the Nation badge. Junior Girl Scouts get a chance to meet and interview women leaders in the community and then create their own campaign commercials to earn their Inside Government badge. During a March 4, 2017 program Cadette Girl Scouts investigated the Equal Rights Amendment (**right**) debate and, in the bipartisan spirit of President Ford, learned to mediate both sides of an argument as they earned their Finding Common Ground badge.

The new Scout programs have been met with great success and our education team plans to offer additional badge classes in the future.



DeVos Learning Center



**A Special Evening  
with the Grand Rapids Drive!  
February 1, 2017**



The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and Museum joined with Mercantile Bank of Michigan to sponsor a Grand Rapids Drive game on February 1. The Grand Rapids Drive is an American professional basketball team of the NBA Development League, based in Grand Rapids. They are an affiliate of the Detroit Pistons. President Gerald R. Ford was represented throughout the entire game. Gerald R. Ford Academic Center welcomed the Drive players to the court. Presentation of the Colors by the Republic of South Vietnam Veteran Color Guard and National Anthem by the Gerald R. Ford Job Corps *Voices of Inspiration*, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by the President Gerald R. Ford Field Service Council Troop 334 and President Ford's nephew, Greg Ford. The Drive wore tribute jerseys bearing President Ford's signature. The half-time show highlighted the 3rd/4th/5th grade basketball team from the Gerald R. Ford Academic Center (GRPS). The night concluded with the raffling off of players' game jerseys.

**Top Left Photo:** Drive Mascot and DeVos Learning Center Director Clare Shubert get their photo taken with President Ford, First Lady Betty Ford and Liberty cut-out. **Bottom Left Photo:** Colors were presented by the Republic of South Vietnam Veteran Color guard. *Photos courtesy of Larry Avery.*



## Albion College

On March 9, 2017 Andy Boyan, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Communication Studies at Albion College joined the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Library and Museum to sponsor a thought-provoking presentation on "Political Bias in American News Media". The discussion took a look at recent research, and the larger picture of political media content in the wake of the 2016 Presidential Election. Dr. Boyan also discussed the role of social media like Facebook and Twitter in how people have come to make judgments about whether their news is really fair and balanced. The evening concluded with a special reception where Albion College alumni, Friends of Ford, and the general public continued the discussion over coffee and dessert.



(l-r) Library and Museum Director Elaine Didier, Assistant Professor Andy Boyan, Museum Deputy Director Joel Westphal, and Foundation Executive Director Joe Calvaruso.

## Foundation says "Farewell" to Retiring Staff

### Diane VanAllsburg

On December 16, 2016, we celebrated the retirement of Diane VanAllsburg after 35 years of dedicated service. Family, friends, business associates, along with former and current staff, gathered in the Gerald R. Ford Room at the Kent Country Club to wish her well. Diane was a charter staff member at the Gerald Ford Museum in 1981, transitioning to the Gerald Ford Foundation 19 years ago. Diane's work has been invaluable in continuing the legacy of President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford and will be greatly missed.



## Ford Family Donation

A very special thank you to the Ford Family – Mike, Jack, Steve, and Susan for their donation of unique items from their parents, President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford's collection. It is through generous donations like this that we will be able to share these precious artifacts with future generations. We are forever grateful for their continued support.

**Photo Right:** Appraised at over \$100,000, President Ford's personal Inaugural Medallion in its original presentation box along with a magnificent photograph of President Ford taken by renowned photographer, Yousuf Karsh; annotated by the artist, "To President Gerald Ford, with the warm personal wishes of Karsh 1977," represent just a couple of the items recently donated by the Ford Family.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum



We also wish to thank all of those who have contributed so generously to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation. Your dedication and continued support honor the principles and values demonstrated by President Ford throughout his life and allow the Foundation to continue sponsoring exhibits, programs, research grants and awards at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum.

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 Please contact Kristy Lecceadone at 616.254.0396 or  
 klecceadone@38foundation.org with any corrections.

## Letter from the Library and Museum Director, Elaine K. Didier, Ph.D.



Dr. Elaine K. Didier

Following a busy schedule of public programs, education classes, special tours and numerous new visitors and researchers coming to the Library and Museum, our staff are ready for spring to finally come to Michigan! We continue to draw high praise for the quality of our new exhibits, the wide array of topics offered in our classes for students, Scouts and adult groups, and the rich diversity of our speaker programs. Photos and highlights of these activities are featured elsewhere in this issue.

New initiatives in the planning stages include special programs and events to draw young families and millennials to the Museum. In response to popular demand, we are also adding some smaller, informal daytime programs in the new DeVos Learning Center, including "meet the author" talks and "behind the scenes" tours with our curators and archivists. Stand by for more details as these develop!

We are also at the forefront in exploring new ways of engaging visitors with our exhibits. The Museum recently hosted more than 40 museum professionals from across the state for two days of workshops led by a team from Museum Hack in New York. This event was organized in collaboration with the Michigan Museum Association and offered new perspectives on ways to engage with visitors of all ages.

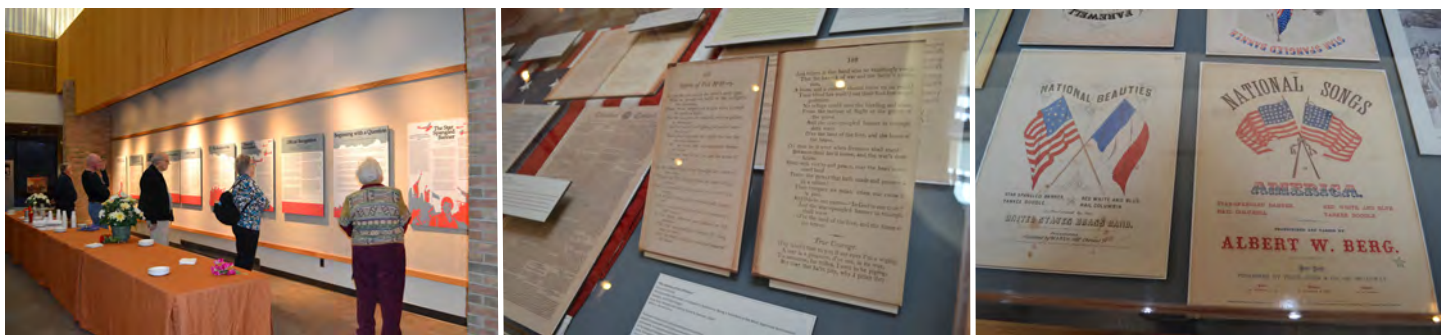
On the research side of our operation, we are delighted to report that we've received banner numbers of applications for grants -- 25 applications for the Research Travel Grants (funded by the Ford Foundation) and 14 applications for the Ford Scholar Award in Honor of Robert Teeter, a \$5000 award for doctoral research related to late 20th century issues. These numbers are great evidence of the interest in and importance of the Ford Library archives, and mean that the Library staff and our two review committees have a lot of serious reading to do in the next several weeks! Winners of these prestigious awards will be announced in the next issue of this newsletter.

Finally, it is a great pleasure to welcome aboard Joel Westphal, our new Deputy Director of the Library and Museum, who joined us in February and shares in the coordination of activities at both the Library and the Museum. We are honored to have someone of Joel's expertise and broad experience joining our management team and look forward to his leadership and contributions in the coming years.

We are continually grateful to all who contribute to the Ford Presidential Foundation and are members of Friends of Ford, for it is your assistance and collaboration with our staff and the National Archives and Records Administration that make all of these exciting programs and initiatives come to fruition.

With appreciation and best wishes, Elaine.

## New Library Lobby Exhibit "Banner Moments: The National Anthem in American Life"



The new Ford Presidential Library lobby exhibit illustrates through interpretive panels, historical documents and photographs, the cultural 200-year history of "The Star-Spangled Banner" (1814–2014). The tale that emerges demonstrates the power of music and poetry to spark the social imagination and thus create a sense of shared community.

Inspired by the successful defense of Baltimore, Maryland from British attack in September 1814, lawyer and amateur poet Francis Scott Key penned his now famous lyric. Rather than extraordinary, Key's creative impulse was typical of early America's broadside ballad tradition in which new words were written to fit well known tunes. The result, however, was far from the ordinary—Key could not have predicted that his song would not only survive the moment, but become his nation's singular anthem. Follow the "The Star-Spangled Banner" from the moments leading up to September 14, 1814 through the present day and explore the social history of our national song. The exhibit was curated by Mark Clague, University of Michigan Professor and Musicologist and will be on display in the Library lobby from March 2017 to September 2017.

# Library & Museum Name New Deputy Director

## Introducing Joel Westphal



Museum Deputy Director Joel Westphal.

Joel joined the Library and Museum in February 2017 as the new Deputy Director. While the position is based at the Museum, Joel works closely with Director Elaine Didier to lead and oversee activities at both the Museum in Grand Rapids and the Library in Ann Arbor.

Joel brings strong academic and research credentials in American History, Library and Information Science and Archives and Records Management. During his studies, Joel lived in the Russian city of Roston-on-Don for two years with his wife Tatyana, who he met NOT in Russia but in a coffee shop in Milwaukee! Together, they have a daughter, Nikki, now a sophomore in high school.

Joel also brings a wealth of management experience in federal service, having served as Director of the Navy Archives, one of the largest repositories of federal records outside of the National Archives. Prior to this role, he held positions in records management for the secretary of the Navy and the Dept. of Naval Operations, the Office of Personnel Management and the U.S. Central Command in Tampa, FL. In this latter position, he played a key role in the preservation of

all Operation IRAQI FREEDOM and Operation ENDURING FREEDOM records in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Joel's leadership and management expertise are already making a positive mark on Library and Museum planning and operational coordination, and we are delighted to have him as the newest member of the Ford Library and Museum Team!



## 40th Annual Greater Grand Rapids Spelling Bee Finals



The 40th Annual Greater Grand Rapids Spelling Bee Finals were held at the Museum on Tuesday, March 14, with 21 area 5th through 8th graders participating. Nearly 200 family and friends were on hand to watch the competition. The winner, Aashray Mandala, moves on to the National Bee in Washington, D.C. later this spring. Aashray is a 7th grader at Grand Haven Lakeshore Middle School. This was his first trip to the Greater Grand Rapids Bee.

**Congratulations to all participants!**

**Far Left:** Greater Grand Rapids Spelling Bee finalists pose for a photo together on the Museum's Grand Staircase.

**Left:** Greater Grand Rapids Area Champion Aashray Mandala will compete in the National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC. on May 31 - June 1, 2017.

## Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Research Travel Grants

Fall 2016 Recipients

**Blumenthal, Seth**  
Boston University  
**Daigle, Craig**  
City College of New York  
**Do, Khue Dieu**  
Seoul National University  
**Gambrell, Rivers**  
University of Oxford

**Gibbs, David**  
University of Arizona  
**Lacombe, Matthew**  
Northwestern University  
**Lazic, Milorad**  
George Washington University  
**Levin-Bonder, Jennifer**  
University of Toronto

**Lifset, Robert**  
University of Oklahoma  
**Morefield, Heidi**  
Johns Hopkins University  
**Sabet, Farzan**  
Graduate Institute Geneva  
**Smith, Marcus**  
Purdue University

**Tony England**  
**"From Earth to Space and Back"**  
 Monday, April 10, 2017

On April 10, the Museum hosted Dr. Tony England, Astronaut and current Dean and Professor at The University of Michigan's-Dearborn College of Engineering and Computer Science for a lecture in conjunction with the Museum's current space exhibit on loan from NASA. Titled, *From Earth to Space and Back*, Dr. England discussed the evolution of the U.S. space program from its early stages and competitive efforts involving Navy and Army rockets and a young NASA program, to his extensive experience as a NASA astronaut and as a scientist involved in Apollo 13 and 16 and Spacelab2. He also discussed the emerging privatization of U.S. space exploration, and the potential for future public-private partnerships to send astronauts to orbit the moon and plan the first U.S. trip to Mars.

The event was very well attended despite a large thunder storm coming through the region, drawing a mix of children with parents and grandparents, students ready to enter aerospace programs in college, and current faculty from area universities. Many of our frequent attendees at Library programs have requested that the program be presented again in Ann Arbor, a request we hope to fulfill in the coming year!



Professor Tony England



**Space Film Series at Museum**

This spring the Museum offered free movies as part of the "SPACE: A Journey to Your Future" (NASA) exhibit at the Museum. Three films were featured: *The Day The Earth Stood Still* (1951), *Gravity* (2013), and *Wall-E* (2008). The NASA Space exhibit will be on display at the Museum until May 29, 2017.



**Kate Andersen Brower**  
**"Inside the Private World of the White House: From the Staffers who Serve the Families to the First Ladies Who Run the White House"**  
 Wednesday, April 5, 2017



Museum Deputy Director Joel Westphal and Kate Andersen Brower.

**Ann Arbor:** Kate Andersen Brower, best-selling author of *The Residence: Inside the Private World of the White House* and *First Women: The Grace and the Power*, captivated an overflow audience as she pulled back the curtain on the private lives of First Families through the experiences of the permanent White House residence staff, including butlers, maids, chefs, florists, plumbers, painters, and other staff, who make the White House run every day and serve at the whim of the President and their families. Ms. Brower shared examples of the trust and special bonds that developed between the First Families and permanent staff, including Gerald and Betty Ford who were very approachable and open and George H.W. and Barbara Bush who took a deep interest in the personal lives of the residence staff.

Ms. Brower also discussed the roles of First Ladies and the special friendships that often developed between First Ladies. Rosalyn Carter, for example, was one of the most involved First Ladies and had a weekly working lunch with President Carter to discuss policy issues. Pat Nixon and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis bonded during the unveiling of Jacqueline Kennedy's First Lady portrait, her first return visit to the White House following the death of President Kennedy.

The audience asked many questions and continued the lively discussion with our speaker at the reception and book signing following the program.

## U.S. Senator Gary Peters Presents West Michigan Vietnam Veterans With 50th Anniversary Commemorative Lapel Pins

March 17, 2017



GRAND RAPIDS, MI - U.S. Senator Gary Peters, a member of the Senate Armed Services and Homeland Security Committees and a former Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve, presented Vietnam veterans from West Michigan with commemorative lapel pins to honor their service in the Vietnam War. The ceremony, which was held at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, is part of a national effort to honor the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vietnam War.

"Michigan is home to more Vietnam veterans than any other era, and it is an honor to present these heroes with a token of recognition for their incredible sacrifices on behalf of our nation," said Senator Peters. "It is the spirit and valor of our brave men and women in uniform that makes our military the finest in the world. As we observe the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, we honor all those who answered the call of duty during a tumultuous time in our nation's history."

Senator Peters' office offers the Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pins to living U.S. veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time between November 1, 1955 and May 15, 1975. Michigan Veterans interested in receiving their lapel pin should contact Senator Peters' office for more information: [www.peters.senate.gov](http://www.peters.senate.gov). *Courtesy of U.S. Senator Gary Peters.*



Office of U.S. Senator Gary Peters

U.S. Senator Gary Peters thanks a West Michigan Veteran for his service and presents him with the Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Lapel Pin at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum ceremony.

### Mark Clague

*"Banner Ballads: The Many Lyrics of "The Star-Spangled Banner."*

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

Ann Arbor: Dr. Mark Clague, a University of Michigan musicologist and renowned expert on the Star-Spangled Banner, presented a program at the Library exploring more than 100 different sets of words sung to the tune we recognize today as "The Star-Spangled Banner." During the program, Dr. Clague revealed that Francis Scott Key's famous song is just one moment in a dynamic and lyrical conversation across our country's history as the song was modified at various times to serve as victory ballad, protest song, and anthem. Examples included political protest (the abolitionist movement in 1844), Abraham Lincoln's campaign (1860), equal rights or women (Seneca Falls 1848) and translations into multiple languages. The program featured live musical illustrations by pianist Paola Savvidou and soprano Jennifer Goltz, and included an audience sing along on several of the past versions of the Star-Spangled Banner.

The hugely successful program which was both richly educational and extremely enjoyable, coincided with the opening of the Library's new feature exhibit, "Banner Moments: The National Anthem in American Life," highlighting many artifacts from Dr. Clague's private collection. Museum Exhibit Team staff members Bettina Cousineau and Jamie Draper collaborated to plan and execute this fascinating exhibit. We look forward to replicating this wonderful program at the Museum later this year for students and adults alike.



Dr. Mark Clague



Paul Brandus

### Paul Brandus

*"Under This Roof: A History of the White House and the Presidency"*

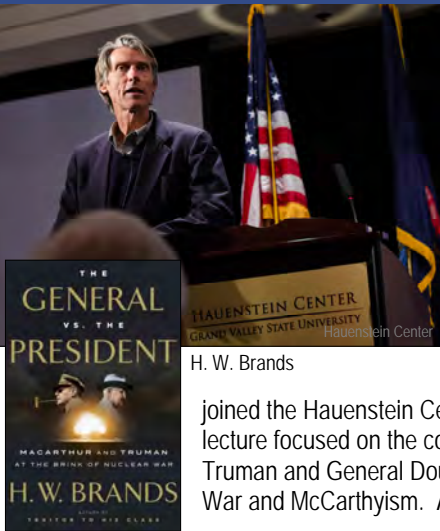
February 15-16, 2017

Paul Brandus, author of *Under This Roof: The White House and the Presidency*, addressed overflow audiences at both the Library and Museum in February. He traced the history of the White House since its construction in 1800, noting that it is older than many other historic residences of world leaders, such as Buckingham Palace, the Imperial Palace in Japan, and the Kremlin. He described the architectural and decorative additions made by various presidents, as well as particular events that took place during certain administrations. He also described how the function of various rooms has evolved over time.

In particular, he mentioned how President Kennedy created the first "Situation Room" during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962, and that the first Press Briefing Room was created by President Nixon in 1970.

The latter space has also been used as a swimming pool during various presidencies. He concluded his

wide-ranging presentation with a pop quiz for the audience, asking what movie was the most popular one that all of the presidents watched in the White House Theater. The answer: *High Noon*, starring Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly, with Brandus theorizing that the movie's theme of the lonely burden of keeping everyone safe resonated with many of our presidents.



H. W. Brands

**H. W. Brands**  
*"The General vs. The President"*  
 Thursday, February 9, 2017

**Grand Rapids:** Historian H.W. Brands presented *"The General vs. The President: MacArthur and Truman at the Brink of Nuclear War"* on February 9, 2017 at Grand Valley State University. The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Library and Museum joined the Hauenstein Center for this presentation. Brands' lecture focused on the conflict between President Harry S. Truman and General Douglas MacArthur amid the Korean War and McCarthyism. A book signing followed the lecture.

**Kara Alaimo, Ph.D.**  
*"The Role of Social Media and Other New Technology in the 2016 Election."*  
 Monday, February 13, 2017

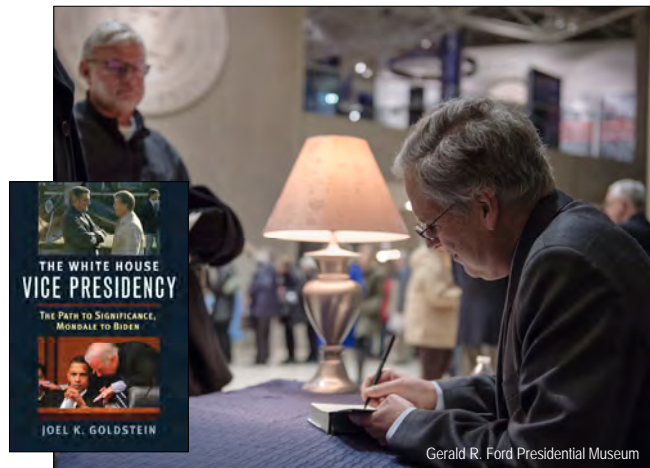
**Grand Rapids:** Hofstra University's Kara Alaimo, Ph.D. visited Grand Rapids and spoke at the Museum the morning of February 13<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Alaimo is an Assistant Professor of Journalism, Media Studies, and Public Relations at the University and serves as an independent communications consultant. Her topic "The Role of Social Media and Other New Technology in the 2016 Presidential Election" drew a diverse audience of nearly 50 people, and sparked a lively discussion about social media in general, about "fake news", alternative facts and real or perceived bias in the media.



Kara Alaimo

**Joel K. Goldstein**  
*"The White House Vice Presidency: The Path to Significance, Mondale to Biden"*  
 Thursday, January 26, 2017

**Grand Rapids:** Professor Joel Goldstein of the St. Louis University School of Law presented 3 programs during a busy couple of days at the Ford Museum in January. Back by popular demand following his highly successful presentation at the Library in May 2016, Professor Goldstein addressed an evening audience at the Museum, an AP Government class in Jenison and another senior group at the Museum on the following day. Just one week after the beginning of the new Trump-Pence administration, Goldstein discussed the historic role of the vice president in our history, and its evolution in more recent times into a position of considerable impact on the day-to-day functions and long-term success of the President's agenda. His talk was informative, engaging and filled with witty anecdotes from vice presidents across our nation's history. Following his talk, the audience had numerous very thoughtful questions, and, as predicted, concluded with a question about his predictions for how the emerging Trump-Pence administration will evolve. A book signing followed the presentation.



Professor Joel K. Goldstein autographs a copy of his book.



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

**Presidential Inauguration**  
 Friday, January 20, 2017

**Grand Rapids:** Once again the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum celebrated the Presidential Inauguration by broadcasting the activities from Washington D.C. in the Museum's auditorium. The day was also marked with free admission and cake to commemorate the swearing in of the 45th President of the United States, Donald J. Trump.



Face-to-Face Productions

**Face-to-Face Productions presented**  
*"The George Washington Follies"*  
 January 24-25, 2017

**Grand Rapids:** Face-to-Face Productions brought their ever-popular play, "The George Washington Follies," back to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in January, entertaining nearly 800 area children. The premise of the play is that George Washington is filled with insecurities as he prepares for his 1789 inauguration. While sleeping, he dreams that King Charlemagne, Cleopatra, and Confucius all visit him, sharing their leadership strengths and philosophies with the soon to be President, enabling him to find his own inner strength and courage. "The George Washington Follies" was presented in partnership with Grand Rapids Circle Theatre's Circle Presents.

## Annual Tree Lighting and Holiday Open House at the Museum



Carolers greet guests at Annual Tree Lighting.

Once again the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum and Foundation celebrated the holidays with two annual events. The Tree Lighting took place on **November 17th**, and even though the weather wasn't festive, the crowds that came out were. WOODTV 8 News anchors Susan Shaw and Brian Sterling passed out the awards to the various community groups that sponsored trees. The winners were delighted, and everyone headed into the Museum to see the beautiful trees on display.

On **December 4th**, Santa and Mrs. Claus made a special visit to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Guests were greeted by reindeer, and enjoyed free admission to the Museum and delicious Christmas cookies! This year the Foundation hosted a selfie contest. Guests could dress up as elves, a snowman, or Santa. A lot of Christmas card photos were taken that day! Both events are favorites of the Grand Rapids community.



Santa and Mrs. Claus at Holiday Open House.

Leah Wright Rigueur

*"Between the Lines: The Republican Party at a Racial Crossroads"*

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

**Ann Arbor:** Leah Wright Rigueur, Assistant Professor of Public Policy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, opened her presentation by recounting her earlier research at the Ford Library, funded by a travel grant from the Ford Presidential Foundation, and how her findings within the Library's archival collections enriched her dissertation and her subsequent work in the field. She described the remarkable responses to President Ford's nomination of William T. Coleman to a cabinet position in the administration of a party not known for engaging or including the African American community. She went on to describe the historic evolution of African American voters in the Democratic and Republican parties and described three waves of Black Republican activity between 1936 and 1980. She noted that during his first eight months in office, President Ford met with more African Americans than any prior president. However, despite Ford's personal actions as president, these were often countered by actions by the Republican Party. Her detailed presentation was followed by excellent questions from the audience, which continued through the reception and well beyond.



Leah Wright Rigueur

U.S. Senator Gary Peters

*"Space: A Journey to Our Future (NASA)"* Exhibit Opening Lecture

Thursday, November 10, 2016

**Grand Rapids:** On November 10, Michigan's United States Senator, Gary Peters, offered the keynote address that opened *Space: A Journey to our Future*, a traveling exhibit organized by NASA. Senator Peters is a member of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, which oversees the activities of NASA. The Senator spoke with high school science, technology, engineering, and math students at the Museum that morning and with a public audience that evening.

Together, about four hundred people heard Senator Peters speak about NASA's ambitions to send manned missions to Mars, targeting a launch date early in the next decade. He described recent visits to NASA facilities to witness the development of the Orion capsule that will carry the astronauts to the red planet and to witness the launch of the rockets that will lift the capsule and its payload into space.

Senator Peters spoke about opportunities this generation of high school and college students will have with NASA and with private firms as they continue to invest in missions to the International Space Station, the moon, approaching asteroids, and to Mars. Senator Peters stressed how companies and universities in Michigan are making important contributions to these missions and to shaping future missions.

The exhibit, *Space: A Journey to our Future*, will run through the end of May 2017. It looks at the foundations of space exploration and focuses on imagining a mission to Mars. Visitors can see a first edition of *From the Earth to the Moon*, by Jules Verne, a 19<sup>th</sup> century novel that inspired space exploration. Nearby is a tire from one of the Apollo mission Moon rovers and a uniform from an early Space Shuttle flight. Stars of the show include a Moon rock and meteorite and a Mars meteorite. At various stations visitors can see their heat signatures through infrared cameras, learn about space probes, walk into a mock-up of a Mars encampment, and design their own Mars stations. The exhibit was brought to the Museum and staged by efforts of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum staff, and its costs were underwritten by the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation.



Senator Gary Peters



## Have you heard about the Cultural Membership Exchange?

During certain months the Grand Rapids Children's Museum offers membership exchange at area cultural organizations. During the month of August, 2017, show your Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Membership card at the Grand Rapids Children's Museum and get up to 2 adults and 4 children in for free!



White House Exhibit at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.



*Yes, I want to be a member of "Friends of Ford"*

*Become a member of "Friends of Ford" and help support the Library and Museum's many exhibits and programs. Join us as we seek to enhance public understanding of American history, government, and the presidency.*



*As a member of Friends of Ford you are invited to participate in many special Library and Museum activities that are not open to the general public.*

Members of "Friends of Ford" receive many valuable benefits:

- ★ Free admission to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum
- ★ Advance notification of speakers and exhibits at both the Library and Museum
- ★ Invitation to pre-opening exhibit tours by staff members
- ★ Foundation Newsletter, 5 issues per year
- ★ 10% Discount on merchandise at the Museum Store
- ★ Free admission to other Presidential Libraries and Museums
- ★ Membership card
- ★ Members at the Family, Associate, Sustaining, Patron, President's Cabinet and Legacy membership levels receive additional benefits.

*For further information, please contact Kristy Lecceadone at 616.254.0396 or email [kleccadone@38foundation.org](mailto:kleccadone@38foundation.org).*

Attached is an application envelope for your convenience. Memberships are tax deductible to the limits allowed by the IRS.

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization.

**Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, 303 Pearl Street, NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5353  
616-254-0396**



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*The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation fosters increased awareness of the life, career, values and legacy of America's 38th President. It does so through activities designed to promote the high ideals of integrity, honesty, and candor that defined President Ford's extraordinary career of public service. The Foundation promotes the ideals, values, commitment to public service and historical legacy of President Gerald R. Ford and further promotes greater civic engagement and recognition of integrity wherever it exists in the public arena. It supports permanent and changing exhibits designed to promote historical literacy: conferences; educational outreach and other programs, both scholarly and popular, including at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum.*