

Structuring the Discourse of Public History Practice

Location: Oregon, United States

Call for Papers Deadline: 2009-06-01 (in 21 days)

For the 2010 NCPH conference in Portland, Oregon, Rebecca Conard and Holger Hoock are organizing a paper session on “Structuring the Discourse of Public History Practice.” We are scouting for public historians to present strong case studies that critically examine the practice of public history in a variety of settings and for a variety of purposes (e.g., policy creation, institutional memory, resource preservation and management, civic engagement, cultural identity). Case studies should examine the theoretical frameworks that inform inquiry and analysis; methodologies employed; and the relative roles that historian, audience (or end user), collaborators, partners, or governing bodies play in shaping the processes of inquiry and interpretation.

This session is linked to the preparation of an edited collection of essays, currently under development, which will combine theoretical perspectives and reflections on professional identity with case studies that examine the practice of public history in North America and the UK in relation to multiple intellectual frameworks, methodologies, and situations. The goal is to move toward a clearer understanding of the nature of public history as a distinctive mode of scholarly production that transcends venues of practice and national borders.

For more information, or to propose a case study concept, contact:

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