

**2019 Annual Conference
Preliminary Schedule**

**The Future of the Past:
Historical Interpretation in an Ever-Changing
Modern World**

**February 22–24
Little Rock, Arkansas**

**Hosted by
Historic Arkansas Museum
The Old State House Museum**

*Online registration at
www.arkansaslivinghistory.com.
For more information, contact alhacommunications@gmail.com.*

“The Future of the Past” Conference with keynote speaker Jim Lauderdale



Jim works as the museum supervisor for Fort Nisqually Living History Museum, part of Metro Parks Tacoma, in Tacoma, Washington. He oversees the museum’s administration, education program, events and public programs, curation of artifacts, retail business in the museum’s store, and grounds and structural maintenance. In his brief time at Fort Nisqually, he has co-authored the museum’s Long-Range Interpretive Plan, worked with staff to complete the StEPs Program with AASLH, and the Core Document Verification Program with AAM.

Prior to Fort Nisqually, Jim managed Nash Farm in Grapevine, Texas. There, he oversaw the education program delivering tours to thousands of students and families each year; the public events program where he created several new event series providing hands-on learning opportunities for the farm’s audience; the heritage livestock program; the introduction of Speckled Sussex chickens and Gulf Coast Native sheep to the farm; grounds and structural maintenance including the foundation leveling of a 19th Century farmhouse and the construction of a cistern for a 19th Century windmill; historic farming including a kitchen garden, field crops, and orchard; and the farm’s volunteer program. During his tenure at Nash Farm, Jim co-founded the Texas Living History Association and briefly served as the association’s president before moving to Tacoma.

Jim now lives and works in Tacoma, Washington along with his wife, two children and two dogs. They love the Pacific Northwest and see this being their home for some time. He has been a member and advocate of ALHFAM since the Texas conference in 2012 and looks forward to serving the organization in any way he can.

Hotel Information

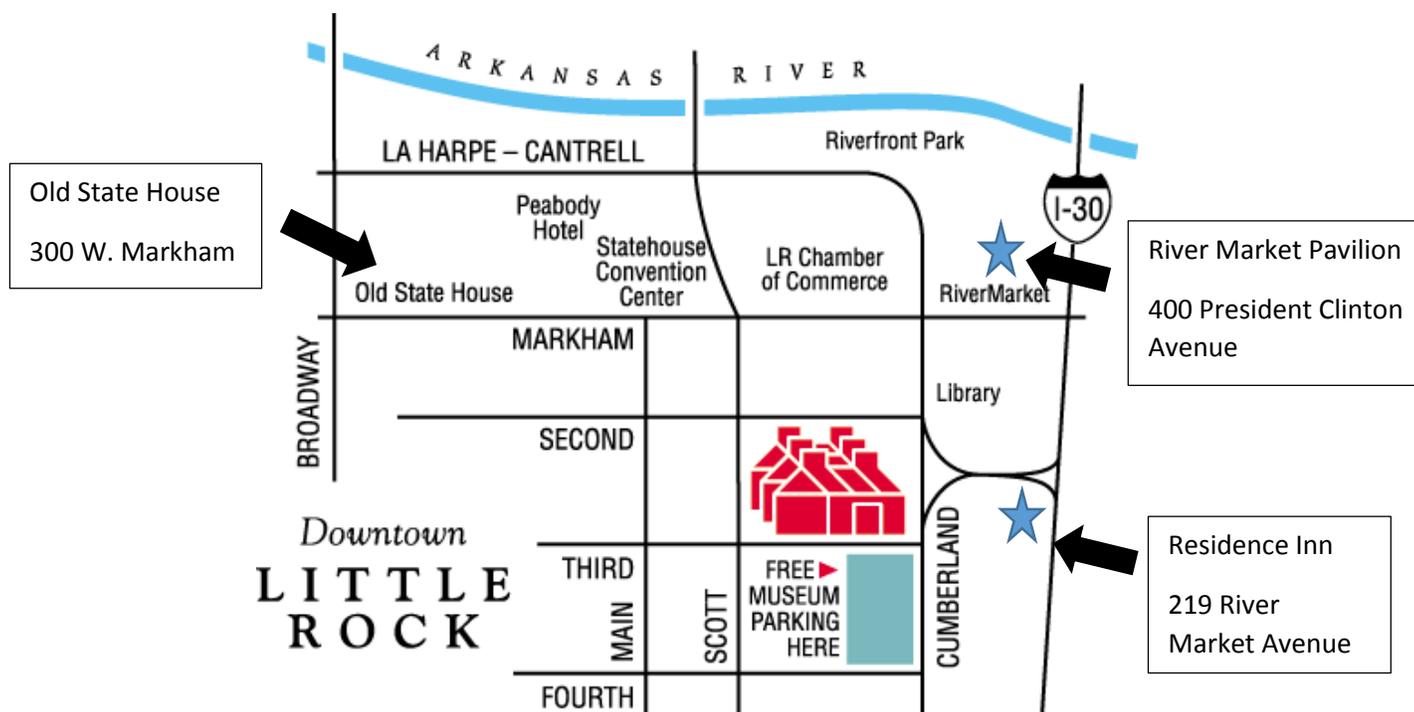
Residence Inn by Marriott Little Rock
219 Rivermarket Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72201
Phone: 501-376-7200
\$94.00 per night
Parking Fee \$10 per night
Reservations close January 22, 2019
Group Name: Association of Living History
Use this link to book online:
[Book your group rate for Assn of Living History](#)

Host Site Information

Historic Arkansas Museum
200 E Third Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

Old State House Museum
300 W Markham
Little Rock, AR 72201

Saturday Evening Event:
Bill and Margaret Clark Room, 3rd Floor River Market Pavilion, 400 President Clinton Avenue



Apprentice, Journeyman, and Master Certifications

The Arkansas Living History Association encourages higher standards of living history performances. The ALHA certification process was designed to recognize ALHA members' efforts, and to assist educators, parks and museum staff, living history event sponsors, and others in identifying quality living historians that are historically/factually accurate and skilled in public performance designed to educate the public.

Anyone wanting to begin or continue the process may sign up for the certification training workshops. Any member of the Arkansas Living History Association who desires to be certified as a journeyman level in a first- or third-person living history performance will submit an application packet as posted on the website. For more information, or to sign up for the Journeyman or Master certification contact Elista Istre: elista_istre@yahoo.com.

Scholarships

ALHA offers scholarships to the annual conference that cover registration and a portion of lodging expenses. Scholarship recipients must be members of ALHA, or must become members upon acceptance. Scholarship recipients will also be asked to supply an article for the ALHA newsletter.

To apply, email the following information to Aaron Loehndorf aloehndorf@springdalear.gov by **January 7th**:

- Reason for wanting to attend the conference
- Reason for needing assistance
- Current area of study (students) or current position
- Year in school or length of time in position

Please provide as much detail as possible so that the committee can make an informed decision.

Friday, February 23: Workshops

For questions on workshops or sessions, contact Joleen Linson at Joleen.linson@arkansas.gov or (501) 324-9342

8:00 a.m.

Registration Table Opens – Historic Arkansas Museum

All Day

9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

ALHA Apprentice Workshop (Lunch Included)

Cost: \$10

Full-day workshops covering the basics of Living History 101: creating a character, basic performance skills, research, dealing with special problems in living history, event planning basics, and other topics. Certification guidelines can be downloaded from the Arkansas Living History Association Website.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Field House

ALHA Certification Board

Half Day

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Behind the Big House: The Challenges of Interpreting Race and Slavery through Living History (Lunch Included)

Cost: \$15

Behind the Big House explores extant slave dwellings and interprets the experiences of enslaved people who inhabited them. It includes living history and lectures, highlights the important contributions African Americans made to Arkansas's history, and draws attention to issues of slavery and race relations in discussions of Arkansas's past. Through a series of activities, presenters will outline challenges and engage participants in discussions of best practices for interpreting slavery and other sensitive topics.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Ottenheimer Theater

Rachel Patton, Executive Director, Preserve Arkansas

Dr. Jodi Barnes, Arkansas Archeological Survey, UAM Station

Building and Using a Spring-Pole Wood Lathe (Lunch Included)

Cost: \$10

The spring-pole lathe has been in use for centuries. This workshop will discuss the construction of a “portable” wood lathe, demonstration of its use, chisels, wood and historical projects that can be turned. If time allows participants can take a tour on using the lathe.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Classroom

Preston Ware, Oklahoma Historical Society

ALHA Journeyman Workshop (Lunch Included)

Cost: \$10

The workshop will cover advanced living history material, including how to receive Journeyman and Master Certification. Certification guidelines can be downloaded from the Arkansas Living History Association website.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Peg Smith Room

ALHA Certification Board

Cooking Workshop: Breads “Flat, Quick, or Yeast?”

Cost: \$15

Flat, quick, or yeast? So many names, so many ways to make bread. For many the thought of making bread can be intimidating. When you add the idea of doing so without the convenience of the modern oven or even bread machine it seems impossible. In this workshop, examples of several different types of breads will be prepared while using charcoal or wood fire as the heat source.

Location: Brownlee Kitchen

Sheila Ballard, Historic Washington State Park

**Half Day
1:00–4:00 p.m.**

Bringing Social Dance Back to the Present (Includes Lunch)

Cost: \$10

Learn early and mid-century dances and how you can use them to educate the public about the positives of social and community dancing.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Classroom

Josh Williams, ALHA President, Curator, Historic Washington State Park

Teaching with Technology: Videos and Interactive Exhibits (Includes Lunch)

Cost: \$10

We are all struggling with engaging a broader audience base. At Shiloh Museum, we have updated our exhibits to include interactive technology and also to create videos that can be posted online or shared as DVDs. This session aims to show you what you can do on a limited budget and with the resources already available to you. Neither of the presenters has a formal degree in computer programming but can show you how any can do what we have done. We will show projects created with XAML.net, Visual Studio, Premiere Pro, Media Encoder and Adobe Encore. We will also provide examples of free alternatives or software already available on most workstations.

Participants might want to bring a laptop with programs preloaded but we will have a laptop available for anyone who would like to try out some of the programs discussed. Email session leaders if you want details on the programs prior to the session.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Ottenheimer Theater

Rachel Whitaker, Shiloh Museum of Ozark History,

rwhitaker@sprindalear.gov

Heather Costello, volunteer, Shiloh Museum of History and Washington County Historical Society, clermorgaine@gmail.com

Cooking: Sweets and Treats

Cost: \$15

Every year in November, Historic Washington State Park's cast iron cooking workshop is all about sweets and treats for the upcoming holidays. Come and learn how to prepare some of the favorites from past workshops, from sticky sweet caramel sauce to a not-so-sweet treat.

Location: Brownlee Kitchen

Sheila Ballard, Historic Washington State Park

Friday Evening Events

ALHA Journeyman Certification Review

4:30–6:00 p.m.

ALHA members wishing to complete their Journeyman and Master certification must stand for the review panel. You must have already received your Apprenticeship certification, notified the committee, and completed all other requirements for Journeyman certification. All ALHA members are invited to observe the review process.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Ottenheimer Theater

Opening Potluck and Reception

5:30–8:30 p.m.

Historic Arkansas Museum

Welcome to Historic Arkansas Museum! Conference attendees are invited to bring a historic delicacy to share during the potluck meal.

Conference Hospitality Room

Residence Inn

Saturday, February 24: Sessions and Keynote

7:00 a.m.

Registration Table Opens – Historic Arkansas Museum

Keynote Address

8:00–8:45 a.m.

The State of Living History

Jim Lauderdale will address his experiences with living history over the last twenty-one years. This will include observations of living history as a hobby and a profession, how living history has changed, and what living history may look like in the future.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Ottenheimer Theater

Jim Lauderdale, Museum Supervisor, Fort Nisqually Living History Museum

Concurrent Session I

9:00-9:50 a.m.

Handling Challenging Guests and Difficult Situations- A Practical Workshop

Is training your living history staff how to handle “challenging guests” (hecklers, know-it-alls, etc.) part of your training? This session will cover some general situations, give participants an opportunity to role play common situations, and brainstorm some creative ways to handle “challenging guest”, “oops” situations, and other interactions and distractions to your presentations.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Ottenheimer Theater

Kent Goff, Lead Living History Interpreter, Mississippi Valley Educational Programs

“When in the Course of Human Events”: The Relevance of the Declaration of Independence through Living History

Learn and discuss how a simple living history recreation of reading a historical document can connect strongly to a modern audience. Historic Washington State Park reads the Declaration of Independence each July 4th and many visitors come out to discuss the document and how it relates to them today.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Field House

Josh Williams, ALHA President, Curator, Historic Washington State Park

X Rays and Saw Blades

The Ozarks are home to fascinating characters and traditions as witnessed in the True Faith True Light exhibit displayed at the Old State House Museum last year. This exhibit showcased the whimsical instruments Ed Stilly upcycled and gifted to children over 40 years. It also presented a new set of challenges to the education staff at a museum where political history has been a primary focus. Daniel Cockrell will share his development process for new interpretive programs and new audiences. Many ALHA/ALHFAM members have been faced with a similar challenge- how to make links between temporary exhibition topics and educational programming. This session will provide practical advice and entertaining lessons learned on how to think outside the “cigar” box and unleash summer camp creativity from initial ideas to finished product: a maker-

space program that enabled youth to design and build their very own Stilly style cigar box ukeles.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Classroom

Daniel Cockrell, Adult Education/Living History Coordinator, Old State House Museum

**Concurrent Sessions II
10:00–10:50 a.m.**

Let Us Eat Cake!

Have you looked through a 19th Century cookbook and wondered what Election Cake, Washington Pie, or Chocolate Cake tasted like? Explore these flavor profiles and various other cakes and frostings in this tasting session.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Classroom

Shawnra Greene, Mulberry, Arkansas

Arkansas Made: Historic Foodways

Learn how the Arkansas Made Research Team has used their research into the historic foodways of early Arkansas to team up with local chefs and the museum's Foundation to create four historic foodways dinner that helped to expand museum visitation and membership.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Field House

AR Made Research Team

Dissecting the Leviathan: Living History, Memory, and the Civil War in Modern America

The Civil War does not lack public interest or attention, but recent controversies about how we remember the conflict show that, to remain relevant, we must present the War to the public in new and different ways. Traditional narratives have come under heavy critique, and changing American demographics require that we delve deeper into new areas of research to engage with younger people and, in some cases, rethink our received wisdoms about the conflict. This paper will identify some of the present difficulties surrounding public interpretation of the Civil War and how living historians can grow and develop their narratives to grapple with them.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Ottenheimer Theater

Dr. Carl Drexler, Southern Arkansas University Archeological Station

Concurrent Sessions III

11:00-11:50 am

Cut the Ropes: Removing Barriers at Living History Museums

This session will address the benefits of removing barriers at living history museums. In the last 20 years, the museum industry has begun to understand that our audiences learn things in different ways. As a result, museums are offering more than lecture style programs and text panels. Living history museums often lead the way in removing physical barriers and allowing their audiences to experience the subject matter of the museum's exhibits. These experiences often translate to memories that will mean more to the guest than a souvenir they pick up on their way out the door. Besides the obvious physical barriers, other barriers that we have the opportunity to remove will be discussed.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Ottenheimer Theater

Jim Lauderdale, Museum Supervisor, Fort Nisqually Living History Museum

Time for Video Game Living History?

The current high school generations' parents and grandparents began to play video games in the late 1970s, so now is it time to include the significant impact these games and systems had on our culture, technology, and social interactions? How do we do programming? Short history and demonstration.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Field House

Zane Goff, Living History Interpreter, Mississippi Valley Educational Programs

Humanities Council Grants

Learn how your local Humanities Council can help improve your living history program. Learn the basics of applying and getting money to help support your program.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Classroom

Jama Best, Director, Arkansas Humanities Council

Saturday Lunch and ALHA/SEALHFAM Business Meeting

12:15–1:30 p.m.
Old State House Museum

Field Trips

2:00–5:00 p.m.

Plantation Agricultural Museum and Toltec Mounds

Take a trip to Scott, Arkansas, and visit two Arkansas State Parks. Plantation Agricultural Museum preserves Arkansas's farming history. Housed in a series of buildings is the main museum originally built as a general store in 1912, the Dortch Gin Exhibit containing a 1916 cotton gin, Seed Warehouse #5 which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and a Historic Tractor Exhibit completed in 2018. Toltec Mounds State Park, a National Historic Landmark, preserves the largest mound system in Arkansas. It once served as a ceremonial ground for prehistoric Native Americans. The site provides visitors a chance see to archeological research at work.

Limit: 40

Arkansas National Guard Museum and Jacksonville Military Museum

The Arkansas National Guard Museum, located on Camp Robinson, tells the history of the Arkansas National Guard and the militia as well as the history of Camp Robinson and Camp Pike. The Jacksonville Military Museum works to teach the public of the importance of the military and of those on the home front as support to the military.

The directors of both museums will be present to visit with the groups.

Limit: 20

Downtown Little Rock on your own

Visit Downtown Little Rock museums on your own. Included are Historic Arkansas Museum, Old State House Museum, and more.

Breweries and Distilleries

Join Ian Beard for a brief tour of historic sites associated with the early brewing industry with a visit to a couple of breweries and/or distillery.

Saturday Evening Events

Bill and Margaret Clark Room, 3rd Floor of the Little Rock River Market Pavilion. Dressing in your favorite living history outfit is encouraged.

Silent Action Preview

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Dinner, Dancing, and Live Auction

7:00—9:00 p.m.

Conference Hospitality Room

Residence Inn

Sunday, February 25: Sessions

8:30 a.m.

Registration Table Opens – Historic Arkansas Museum

Concurrent Session IV

9:00–9:50 a.m.

Washboards: Interpreting Lives of Toil or Lives of Freedom?

Interpreters at historic sites often use washboards just to describe how laundry was done but they can also use washboards to teach their audiences about the lives of those who did the laundry. Were they poor or enslaved laundresses? African American women in the Jim Crow era who were shut out of other jobs? Women who travelled west in covered wagons to start new, independent lives? Or Chinese immigrants who faced harsh racism in the West?

Participants will learn how to use washboards or other artifacts to tell the stories of those who used them and how they connected to their time and place.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Ottenheimer Theater

Kate Spool, Historic Farm keeper, Nashville Zoo at Grassmere

Collaborating with Different Cultures in Your Community: Marshall Islanders in Northwest Arkansas

In this session, the Shiloh Museum education staff will use the *Wa Kuk Wa Jimor (Canoe of One Community)* temporary program we implemented this past spring in partnership with the Arkansas Coalition of Marshall Islanders in order to showcase the positive outcomes of collaborating with different cultures in one's community. The program focused mainly on the history of the Marshall Islanders in Northwest Arkansas, and bringing various Marshallese traditions to life on our grounds. By using this program as a foundation, we intend to discuss: working closely with cultural groups (and individuals) in order to plan educational programs, research practices, educating students on sensitive topics, and things we learned throughout the program that can be used to help others implement similar programs at their own institution.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Field House

Kim Hosey, Education Specialist and Weekend Manager, Shiloh Museum of Ozark History

Young Folks 101

How do you attract young people to your site? How do you get teenagers/young people engaged in activities, programs or history in general? If you cannot answer that question then this class is for you.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Classroom

Maya Carrier, Duson, Louisiana

Concurrent Session V 10:00–10:50 a.m.

Universals in an Ever-Changing World

Those things common to the human experience are called “universals”. Universals are a constant through time and space. Let's practice using them.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Ottenheimer Theater

Leita Spears, Historic Washington State Park

18th Century Apprentices in a 21st Century World

Several Colonial Williamsburg Apprentices discuss the advantages and limitations of 18th century tradework in a 21st century museum environment. The session will begin with a facilitate discussion followed by time for questions from the audience.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Field House

Sara Palmer, Apprentice Wigmaker, Colonial Williamsburg;

Tyler Wilson, Colonial Williamsburg; Elyse Bennett, Colonial Williamsburg

Root Hog or DIE, Changing your Sites Interpretation to Survive

From Old House Museum to Living History Farm learn how Hunters Home is changing its interpretation to adapt to the modern trends in historic site visitation.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Classroom

David Fowler, Site Director, Hunter's Home

Concurrent Session VI 11:00–11:50 a.m.

Creoles of South Louisiana: Three Centuries Strong

Many consider South Louisiana to be “Cajun Country”. Few realize that Creoles, often mistakenly referred to as “Black Cajuns” or “African-Americans”, had already established themselves in the Bayou State long before exiled Cajuns arrived. Why does this occur? How do Creoles continue to maintain their cultural identity in the face of modernization? How can we accurately and authentically interpret their rich heritage today? Using Louisiana’s complex Creole culture as an example, let’s discuss how historical interpretation has a profound effect on traditional cultures and their struggle for survival in a modern world.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Ottenheimer Theater

Elista Istre, PhD, Founder and Director, Belle Heritage

Restoration to Education: The Cane Hill Story

Starting programming from the ground up at a historical and recreational site, for all ages and abilities.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Field House

Laci Shuffield, Director of Parks and Rec, Historic Cane Hill

What do 3-D printed lighted parts, walking tours and a korkor have in common?

The Shiloh Museum has been very fortunate to work with Education Accelerated by Service and Technology (EAST) students on a variety of projects. Working with EAST students has allowed Shiloh to tackle projects using technology not available otherwise to the museum. Projects that will be discussed include Marshallese Boat Building, walking tours, and a track lighting adapter.

Location: Historic Arkansas Museum Classroom

Aaron Loehndorf, Collections/Education Specialist, Shiloh Museum of Ozark History

Sunday Lunch to Go

12:00–1:00 p.m.

Historic Arkansas Museum

See You Next Year!

ALHA 2020

Fayetteville, Arkansas

February 28—March 1, 2020