



EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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East Tennessee Historical Society Honors Five Knox County Initiatives with Awards of Excellence in History

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., May 10, 2018 – The East Tennessee Historical Society's (ETHS) annual Awards of Excellence were presented at the organization's Annual Meeting on May 1, 2018, at the Foundry on the World's Fair Site in Knoxville. Since 1982, the Society has annually recognized individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the preservation, promotion, programming, and interpretation of the region's history. Five Knox County initiatives were among the 28 awards presented.

- **The Christman Company** was presented an *Award of Distinction* for their efforts to preserve Cowan Cottage. Formerly listed as a Knox Heritage "Fragile Fifteen" building, Cowan Cottage was renovated by the Christman Company and ranked as a "Fantastic Fifteen" structure in 2017. The 1897 Victorian style structure now includes a classroom space and a large exterior deck to accommodate students. Renovated as part of the University of Tennessee's Strong Hall campus project, it is now a vibrant part of Fort Sanders.
- **Marble Hall at Lakeshore Park** was presented an *Award of Distinction*. Originally constructed in 1958 as a chapel for the Eastern State Psychiatric Hospital, Marble Hall is one of the few remaining buildings at Lakeshore Park from that era. Johnson Architecture adapted the structure for use by the public, combining meticulous preservation of frame with a delicate addition of architectural elements to fit the landscape.
- **East Tennessee PBS, UT Land Grant Films, & Nolpix Media** were presented an *Award of Distinction* for their work on *The Vietnam War: East Tennessee*, a four-episode series created by UT Land Grant Films and Nolpix Media for East Tennessee PBS. The series was broadcast in conjunction with the Ken Burns documentary *The Vietnam War* and was also shown at the East Tennessee History Center, accompanied by panel discussions and remembrances.
- The **African American Heritage Alliance & Clara Osborne** received a *Community History Award* for their annual calendar. Initially conceived by AAHA member Clara Osborne, the African American Heritage Alliance has published an annual calendar since 2011 related to the history of African Americans. The organization seeks to fill in the educational gaps in

Black history, including aspects of the Civil Rights movement in the state and the right for women to vote.

- **HoLa Hora Latina** was also the recipient of a **Community History Award**. HoLa Hora Latina contributes to the cultural life in the Knoxville area through various cultural and educational programs, the largest of which is the annual HoLa Festival, held during Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15-October 15). The festival features food, music, dance, a Parade of Nations, and many other events.

About the East Tennessee Historical Society:

Established in 1834, the East Tennessee Historical Society has 2,000 members across the United States. The Society sponsors the Museum of East Tennessee History, East Tennessee National History Day, and the family heritage programs “First Families of Tennessee” and “Civil War Families of Tennessee.” Its active publications program includes the biannual genealogy magazine *Tennessee Ancestors*; the annual *Journal of East Tennessee History*; and *Newsline*, as well as other books pertaining to the region’s history. For more information on ETHS, exhibitions, or programs, call 865-215-8824 or visit the website at www.EastTNHistory.org.

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