



NEWS RELEASE

Stan Hywet's Education Program with Akron Public Schools Receives Accolades

Awarded AASLH Award of Merit and Grant from the IMLS

October 31, 2016 – Akron, Ohio – The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) recently presented Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens with an Award of Merit for *Meet the Staff – Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens and Akron Public Schools Place based Educations Curricula*. "Meet the Staff" was also awarded a grant in September from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Stan Hywet is located at 714 North Portage Path in Akron, Ohio.

"We are delighted and honored that our placed-based education program is being recognized through these sources of support. This project's success is a result of our exceptional collaboration between Stan Hywet and the staff of the Akron Public Schools, according to Toivo Motter, Director of Education at Stan Hywet."

Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens/Akron Public Schools Place-Based Education Curricula utilizes the historic estate as a "learning lab" to provide self-directed 21st-century learning opportunities to fifth and sixth grade students. This curricula features two programs: "Meet the Staff," an experiential learning curriculum in which students investigate primary sources and visit with first person interpreters to uncover the real-life stories of Stan Hywet's mostly foreign-born domestic staff and "Preserving the Past," a problem-based STEM learning curriculum within which students collect, analyze and interpret soil testing data in order to solve a real-life problem: historic preservation of a 100-year-old landscape design.

AASLH conferred 63 national awards honoring people, projects, exhibits and publications. Established in 1945, this award is the most prestigious recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history.

The mission of the Institute of Museum and Library Services is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. The organization provides leadership through research, policy development, and grant making.

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CONTACT: Donna L. Spiegelger, Communications Manager, 330-315-3294 or dspiegler@stanhywet.org