



Lewis and Clark  
National Historic Trail

# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT





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## *from the* Superintendent

Hello, Friends!

Last year at this time I really expected that in 2021 the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (NHT) team and I would be able to travel to see many of you face to face and to visit key sites along the trail. I must admit that I am disappointed that the COVID-19 pandemic is still impacting our operations and lives. However, one of the things I have learned from studying Lewis and Clark is that much of their success was due to how they prepared for and responded to events. I am impressed by how our staff and all of you have adapted, adjusted, and managed to proceed on. This past year has been difficult in many ways, but those difficulties have also pushed us to grow and adapt in the pursuit of success.

The Lewis and Clark NHT office had a very good year with many successes despite, and maybe even because of, the challenges we faced. The challenges have come from many directions, but the successes came from how we responded. I asked the staff to provide me a list of a few of the achievements this year which they thought were the most important. I got a very long list, many of these achievements are covered in the pages that follow.

I am lucky to work with an amazing team at the National Park Service (NPS) Lewis and Clark NHT office in Omaha. Please remember that all these folks are part of your team as well. If you need to reach any of the trail's NPS staff, you can find their contact information at the end of this annual report.

The legislation that created the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and many other trails clearly envisioned trails as being the product of partners, volunteers, and agency employees working together. This vision is a reality for us. The Lewis and Clark NHT has many outstanding partners who work to protect and promote the trail. Please take a minute to look at the partnership section of this report to see some of the great organizations that share the work and joy of the Lewis and Clark Trail. Please also accept the sincere appreciation and respect that all of us in Omaha have for all of you.

Just like last year, I am confident that the future holds great promise for our organizations, and for our

country. Yes, there are many challenges, but like Lewis and Clark, we can and will find success in how we prepare for and how we respond to these challenges. We must not let obstacles define us, but rather we must define ourselves by how we overcome such obstacles, just as Lewis and Clark did. Please, stay safe, be kind to friends and strangers, celebrate today, your friends, and your family while proceeding on.

Thank You!

*Mark Weekley*

**Mark Weekley**

**Superintendent,  
Lewis and Clark  
National Historic Trail**







## ACROSS THE TRAIL

**Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, OR & WA.** After participating in the 2021 Descriptathon Challenge, the park now has an audio described accessible brochure.

**Travelers' Rest, MT.** Indigenous interpreter Buck Morigeau teaches young visitors about traditional Séliš uses for plants. Photo: Dale Dufour.

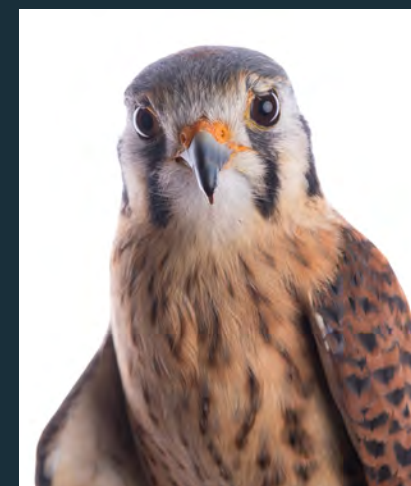
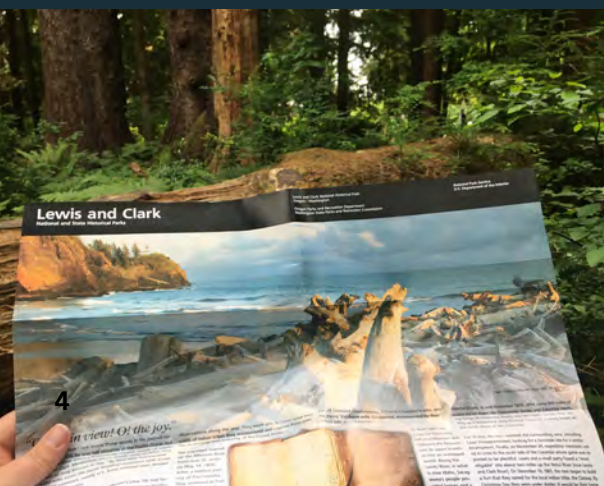
**Pompeys Pillar, MT.** Bureau of Land Management Ranger Colleen Latyshev holds up the new Lewis and Clark Trail Junior Ranger activity book.

**Missouri River Wildlife Walk, MT, SD, ND, NE, IA, KS, MO.** Outdoor exhibit featuring photos by Alex Wiles.

**Omaha, NE.** The Honoring Tribal Legacies program formally transitioned to the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) at the 2021 NIEA conference.

**West Point, KY.** Hasan Davis portrays York at the *Historic Trails Chautauqua: Storytelling on the River* two-day event featuring music, cycling, paddling, and historical reenactments.

**Sewickley, PA.** Eastern Legacy sign dedication marking Woollery's Trap, where in 1803, Lewis had to hire out local oxen to pull the mud-stuck boats. Photo: Debi Brimmer.





## Eastern Extension High Potential Historic Sites Update

Thanks to the efforts of SVM Historical Consulting, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is proud to announce that we have a first draft High Potential Historic Sites (HPHS) Report for the 1,200 miles of the Eastern Trail Extension. HPHS are historic sites related to the route which provide unique opportunities to interpret the significance of the trail. These can include buildings that Lewis and Clark once stood in, vistas they viewed over two centuries ago, sites of importance for the Expedition, and more.

We completed our last HPHS Report in 2018, before the Eastern Extension of the Lewis and Clark NHT from St. Louis to Pittsburgh was approved by Congress. Identifying these eastern sites and what makes them special is essential in our efforts to preserve and promote the Lewis and Clark legacy. Funding from a generous donation via the National Park Foundation made this possible.

— Ryan Kephart |  
Cultural Resources Program Manager

## Eastern Extension Auto Tour Route Mapping

This year, staff from the Integrated Resources Stewardship team have been actively engaged in identifying, mapping, and signing the system of roads and highways that follow along on each side of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Known as the Lewis and Clark Trail Auto Tour Route, this designated route along existing roads follows and commemorates a historic path of travel and is the primary way visitors from across the country and globe visit historic sites, communities, and local businesses and attractions along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

For decades, visitors to the Western United States have followed the Lewis and Clark story via auto tours. In 2019, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail was extended to add 1,200 miles from Wood River, IL to Pittsburgh, PA. Staff have been coordinating with state and local officials to designate and sign new auto routes in the East. Proposed routes in Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri have been finalized and signs have been fabricated and distributed to partners in Kentucky and Ohio.

— Ryan Cooper | Geographer



▲ Presentation of new Lewis and Clark Trail Auto Tour Route signage in Augusta, KY.

◀ Louisville, KY. Jim Holmberg, early champion of the York statue (left) and Ed Hamilton, artist and sculptor of the statue (right) pose with new Lewis and Clark Trail Auto Tour Route signs.





PHOTO: VISIT BILLINGS



WELLKNOWN  
BUFFALO  
TIPI STAYS



UNITED TRIBES  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
INTERNATIONAL  
POWWOW



BAKER BIRD WINERY AND DISTILLERY

Unveiled in July 2021, a new online trip-planning portal, **LewisandClark.travel** helps visitors learn more about the host communities, local businesses, and attractions located along the 4,900-mile trail that runs from Pittsburgh to the Pacific Ocean.

Historic and cultural sites and businesses in communities along the Lewis and Clark Trail can register by visiting **LewisandClark.travel**.



PHOTO BY STARLISA BLACK PHOTOGRAPHY

## LewisandClark.travel Geotourism Program 2021 Highlights

The website **LewisandClark.travel** launched on July 19, 2021 to highlight sustainable tourism offerings along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

Over 2,000 individual sites and attractions have been published live to the interactive map guide in helping to achieve the goal of building a bridge between historical points and current cultural attractions inside communities along the trail.

Eleven expert seminars conducted and made available online at **LewisandClark.travel**.

Five webinars were hosted in 2021 to support promotional efforts along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

Monthly newsletters were written and sent to 900+ partners along the Lewis and Clark Trail. Professional marketing/promo video and five social media shorts were produced and shared widely.

Public relations efforts have brought the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail to the forefront via six different travel stories in six different periodicals.

A content library is in development to highlight specific destinations/communities along the trail.

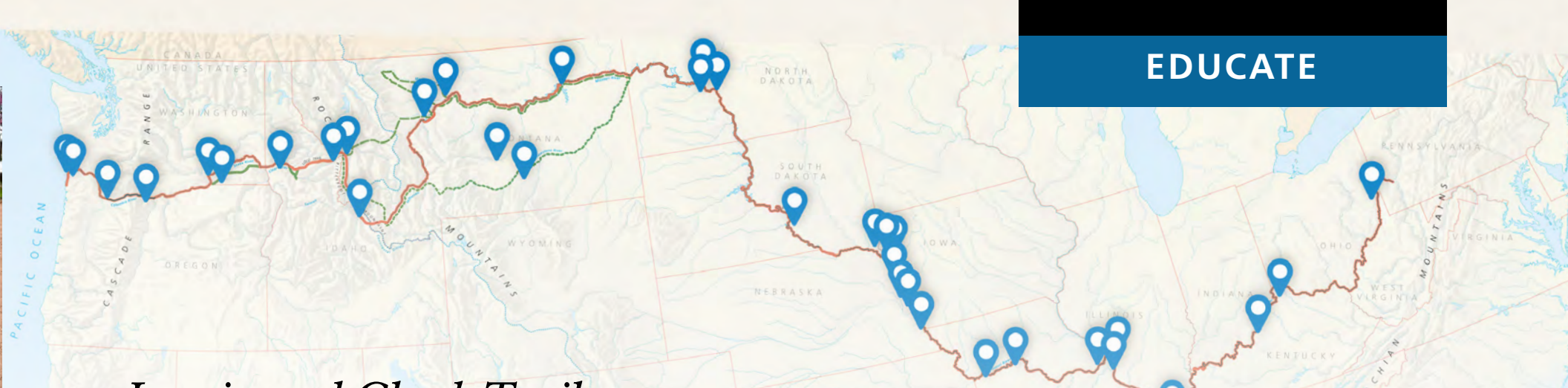
Identified Bike route for Eastern section from Pittsburgh, PA to St Louis, MO.

Launched a new internship program to support the Geotourism Program.

**LewisandClark.travel is a partner website operated by Solimar International.**

—Larry Calhoun | Outdoor Recreation Planner





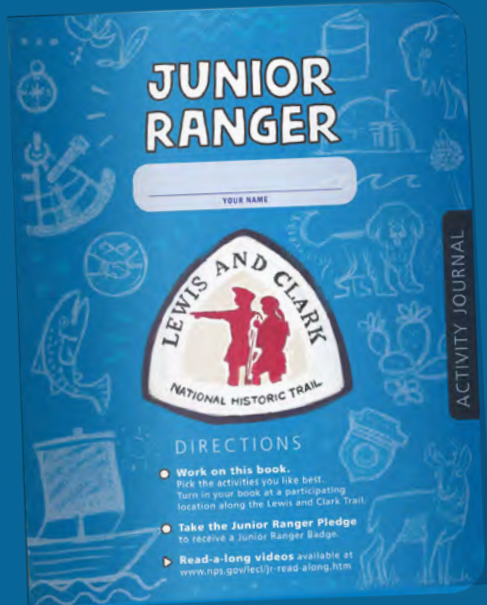
**EDUCATE**

# Lewis and Clark Trail Junior Ranger Program Launches Across the U.S.

▼ Kids and the young at heart can pick up a free booklet at participating locations.

▼ Read along! You can hear activities narrated and audio described: Visit [nps.gov/lecl/jr-read-along.htm](https://nps.gov/lecl/jr-read-along.htm) on a computer or phone.

▼ The Lewis and Clark Trail Junior Ranger Program placed first in the 2021 NAI media awards.



The Lewis and Clark Trail Junior Ranger program is now available at more than 30 locations across the U.S. To earn a Junior Ranger badge, kids work on an activity book that engages them where they are *and* connects them to the national Lewis and Clark Expedition story.

Online read-along videos narrate and audio describe the booklet activities. Kids can also hear indigenous names of plants and animals online. Custom 3D tactile maps help blind and low vision participants understand the trail route. An online Partner Toolkit guides sites hosting the program.

To make the program relevant to sites along all 4,900 miles of trail, planning and community input was essential. A small group of National Park Service interpreters with tribal affiliations assisted with input early on. Ten locations across the trail served as test pilots to review and provide feedback on the Lewis and Clark Trail Junior Ranger activity booklet's first draft.

Participants and host sites have reported high engagement. As kids fill-in-the-blanks, they're learning about tribal homelands. As they decode messages, they're seeing expedition members' diverse backgrounds and skills. This innovative, accessible program is showing kids that the Lewis and Clark Trail story is for everyone.

The Lewis and Clark Trail Junior Ranger program launched on National Trails Day 2021. Innovative elements boost engagement and accessibility for all.



▲ To hear plant and animal names in Arikara, Nez Perce, Chinuk Wawa, Shoshoni, Lakota, and Myaamiaataweenki visit: [nps.gov/lecl/native-names.htm](https://nps.gov/lecl/native-names.htm)

—Caitlin Campbell | Visual Information Specialist



## Project 4,900: *Envisioning the Future of Education Along the Lewis and Clark Trail*

During the winter and spring of 2021, trail interpretive staff collaborated to create a new education plan that will guide the education program for the next several years. *Project 4,900*, named after the 4,900 miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, aspires to engage at least 4,900 students in classrooms and 4,900 students visiting the trail annually. Initial plans have begun for designing synchronous distance-learning opportunities where classrooms will be able to have video calls with several trail sites over the course of a unit of study. If your trail site is interested in being part of regularly scheduled distance-learning engagements with K-12 classrooms, email Education Specialist Tom\_Smith@nps.gov.

—Tom Smith | Education Specialist

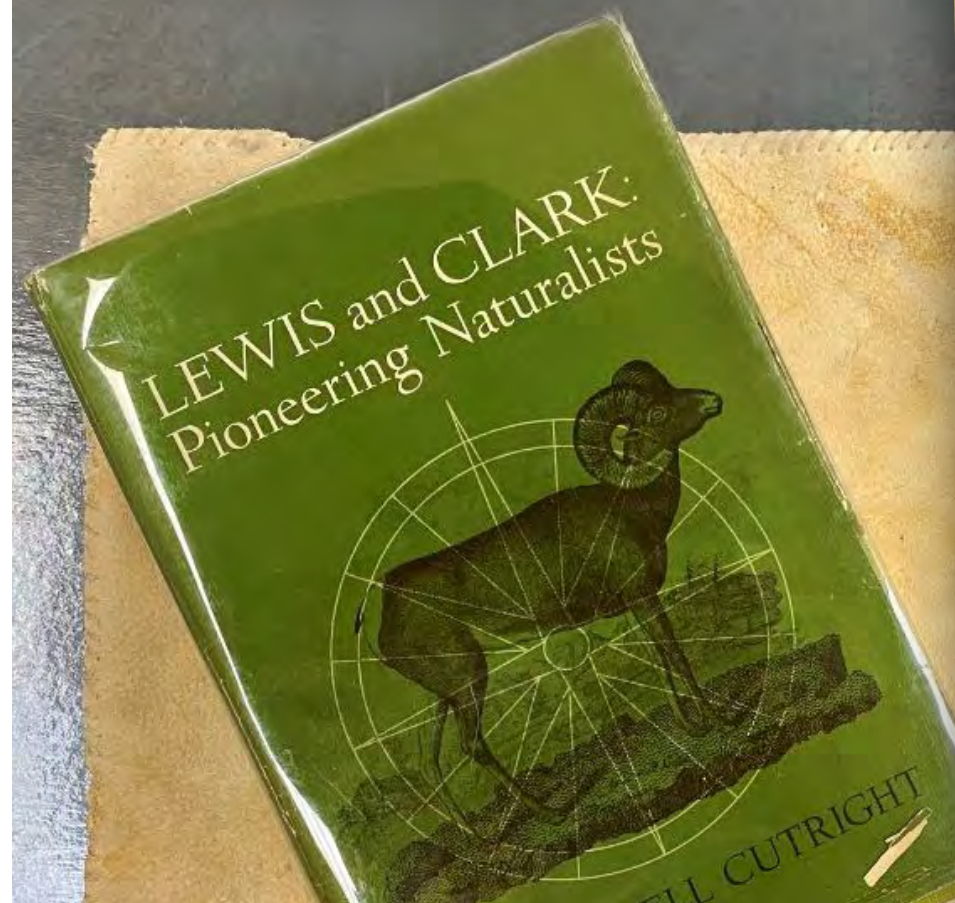
BRING THE CLASSROOM TO THE TRAIL • BRING THE TRAIL TO THE CLASSROOM



## Interagency Agreement with Library of Congress

This year marks the beginning of a beautiful friendship, also known as an Interagency Agreement, between the Trail and the Library of Congress Federal Research Division. Over the next two years we will collaborate to research and update the Lolo Trail National Historic Landmark to better reflect the history of indigenous peoples who called the area home for untold centuries before and after Lewis and Clark.

—Integrated Resources Stewardship Team

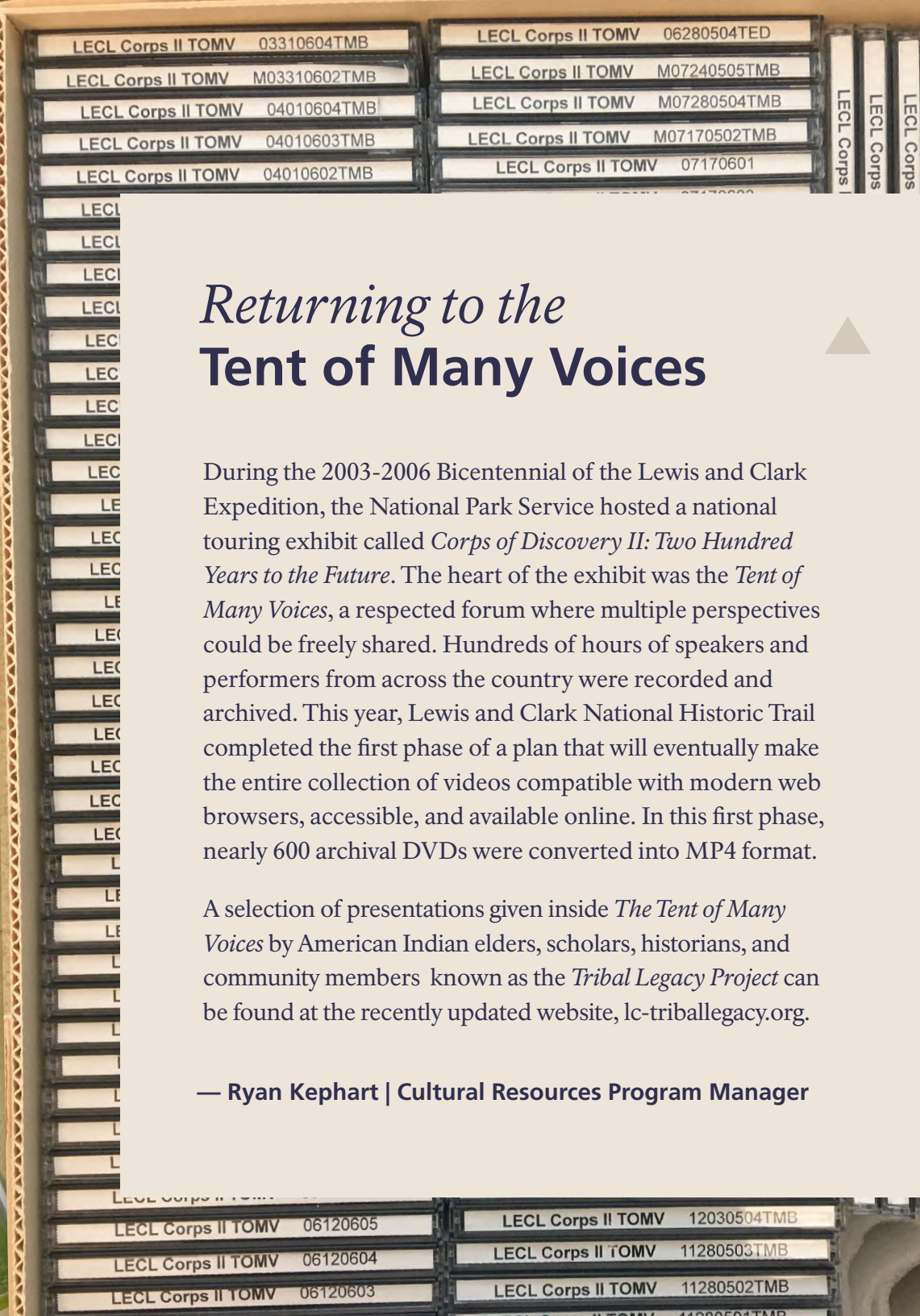


## Returning to the Tent of Many Voices

During the 2003-2006 Bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the National Park Service hosted a national touring exhibit called *Corps of Discovery II: Two Hundred Years to the Future*. The heart of the exhibit was the *Tent of Many Voices*, a respected forum where multiple perspectives could be freely shared. Hundreds of hours of speakers and performers from across the country were recorded and archived. This year, Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail completed the first phase of a plan that will eventually make the entire collection of videos compatible with modern web browsers, accessible, and available online. In this first phase, nearly 600 archival DVDs were converted into MP4 format.

A selection of presentations given inside *The Tent of Many Voices* by American Indian elders, scholars, historians, and community members known as the *Tribal Legacy Project* can be found at the recently updated website, [lc-triballegacy.org](http://lc-triballegacy.org).

— Ryan Kephart | Cultural Resources Program Manager





# Honoring Tribal Legacies

**PARTNER**

**2003 - 2006**

**Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.** Tribal perspectives recorded inside the Tent of Many Voices.

**2010**

**Tribal Legacy project** makes available a limited selection of tribal presentations from the Tent of Many Voices at [lc-triballegacy.org](http://lc-triballegacy.org).

**2014**

**Honoring Tribal Legacies** Phase I completed and unveiled to educators and the general public.

**2020**

**Phase II Completed.** Teacher dissemination and curriculum development concludes with more than 20 units of curricula made available to the public.

**2021**

**National Indian Education Association (NIEA)** becomes the new custodian of the Honoring Tribal Legacies program.



Dick Basch, former Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Tribal Liaison, Clatsop/Nehalem.

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail gifted blankets thanks to the generous support of Lewis and Clark Trust Inc.

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Superintendent Mark Weekley

**Pictured, back row far left to right:** Dr. Michael W. Taylor, Jasok Dropik, Dr. Rose Honey, Dr. Carmelita Lamb, Tom Smith, Dr. Stephanie Wood, Neal Bedlan, Dick Basch, Joe Scott. **Front row left to right:** Diana Cournoyer, Shana Brown, Mark Weekley, Robin Butterfield



## New Beginnings for Honoring Tribal Legacies

This has been a banner year for *Honoring Tribal Legacies*. The program was developed in the years following the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, and has culminated with a two-volume handbook, primary source materials, and 21 units of curriculum for K-12 classrooms. In collaboration with the University of Oregon, these units span all academic areas of study, and exemplify the inclusion of indigenous perspectives in curriculum.

Now, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is passing the baton to an organization that can expand the program to include indigenous tribes and perspectives from all 50 states and territories. The new home of *Honoring Tribal Legacies* is the National Indian Education Association (NIEA). As the custodians of the program, the NIEA can champion *Honoring Tribal Legacies*, and continue to develop meaningful inclusive curricular content. This arrangement was celebrated in October at the NIEA's Annual Convention and Trade Show, held in Omaha, Nebraska. There, the NIEA board of directors, staff, and convention attendees were able to hear from many *Honoring Tribal Legacies* designers and advocates. We are grateful to the NIEA for their passion and determination to bring *Honoring Tribal Legacies* into a new era.

—Tom Smith | Education Specialist



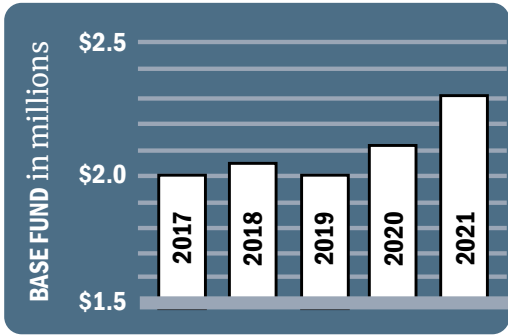
### BUDGET

## Funds Received

ONPS BASE FUND	\$2,301,138
GRANTS RECEIVED PMIS, VOLUNTEERS IN PARKS	\$52,300
<b>TOTAL FUNDS IN 2021</b>	<b>\$2,353,438</b>

#### 5 YEAR ONPS BASE TREND

2017	\$2,008,032
2018	\$2,022,747
2019	\$2,008,032
2020	\$2,103,000
2021	\$2,301,138

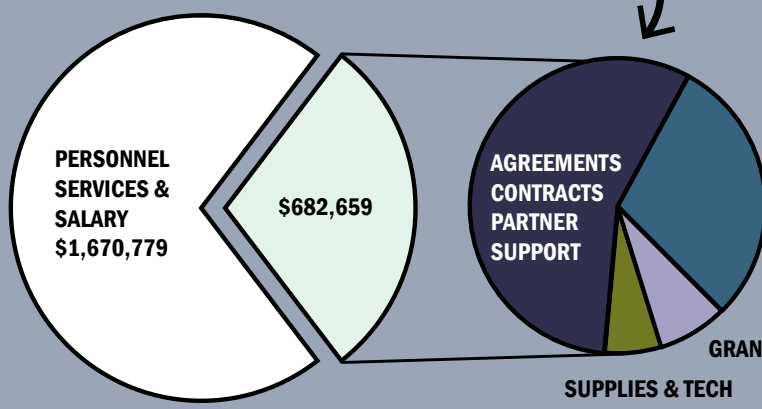


### SPENDING

## 2021 Spending

- AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS, AND PARTNER SUPPORT **\$385,580**
- PUBLICATIONS & SIGNS **\$202,000**
- GRANT PROJECTS **\$52,300**
- SUPPLIES AND TECHNOLOGY **\$42,779**
- TOTAL \$682,659\***

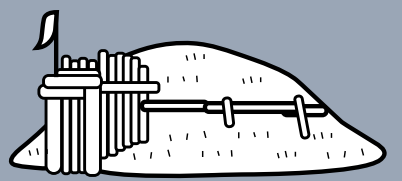
\*OUTSIDE OF PERSONNEL SERVICES & SALARY



**CONTRACTS & AGREEMENTS FUNDS**

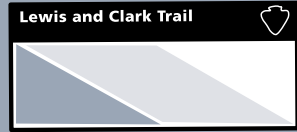


**6 Active Cooperative Agreements**  
WITH PARTNERS ALONG THE TRAIL



**3-year agreement**  
AMERICAN INDIAN ALASKA  
NATIVE TOURISM ASSOCIATION  
**AIANTA & Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail**

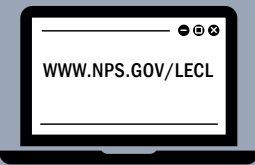
**INTERPRETATION & EDUCATION**



**114,000 "UNIGRID" brochures** PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED



**13,500 Junior Ranger books and badges** DISTRIBUTED TO HOST SITES



**672,735 page views** ON LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL'S OFFICIAL WEB PAGE: [www.nps.gov/LECL](http://www.nps.gov/LECL)



**1,400+ videos** FROM "TENT OF MANY VOICES" ADDED TO NPGALLERY.NPS.GOV



**45 PASSPORT TO PARKS Stamp Locations** ACROSS LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL

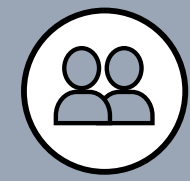
**INTEGRATED RESOURCES STEWARDSHIP**



**2,039 published sites** ON LEWISANDCLARK.TRAVEL INCREASED 3X FROM 2020 INCLUDING 77 TRIBAL SITES



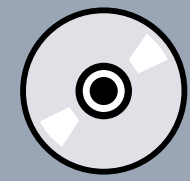
**36 Auto Tour Route Signs** DELIVERED TO KENTUCKY AND OHIO



**5 webinars** WITH EXPERT PRESENTERS HOSTED BY LEWISANDCLARK.TRAVEL



**149 MILES** OF HISTORIC RIVER ROUTE CAPTURED WITH **panoramic mapping**



**588 DVDs** OF "TENT OF MANY VOICES" RECORDINGS CONVERTED TO MP4 FOR PRESERVATION AND ACCESSIBILITY







## Partnering with AIANTA: the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is proud to partner with the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) to find and share the stories of Native American Tribes that intersect with the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. AIANTA visited Tribes in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana, conducted more than 120 interviews, developed content, and created regional itineraries that include Native and Tribally-owned destinations and experiences along the route. As of this writing, completed content for more than 77 listings are now showcased at *LewisandClark.travel* and *NativeAmerica.travel*. Lewis and Clark Trail Experience Geotourism Program offers new opportunities for Indigenous people to share their stories with visitors from around the world through cultural tourism.

— Dan Wiley | Senior Leader  
Integrated Resources Stewardship

**Right:**  
Beaded Bag  
Alice Jackson.  
c 1930

Nez Perce  
National Historical Park  
museum collection,  
NEPE 4699



“ We are excited to work with the National Park Service to help Tribes along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail share their stories. Native Americans are often left out of the historical narrative, so we are thrilled that NPS is looking to deliver a comprehensive inventory of tribal activities and cultural tourism experiences for visitors interested in traveling all or parts of the famed route. ”

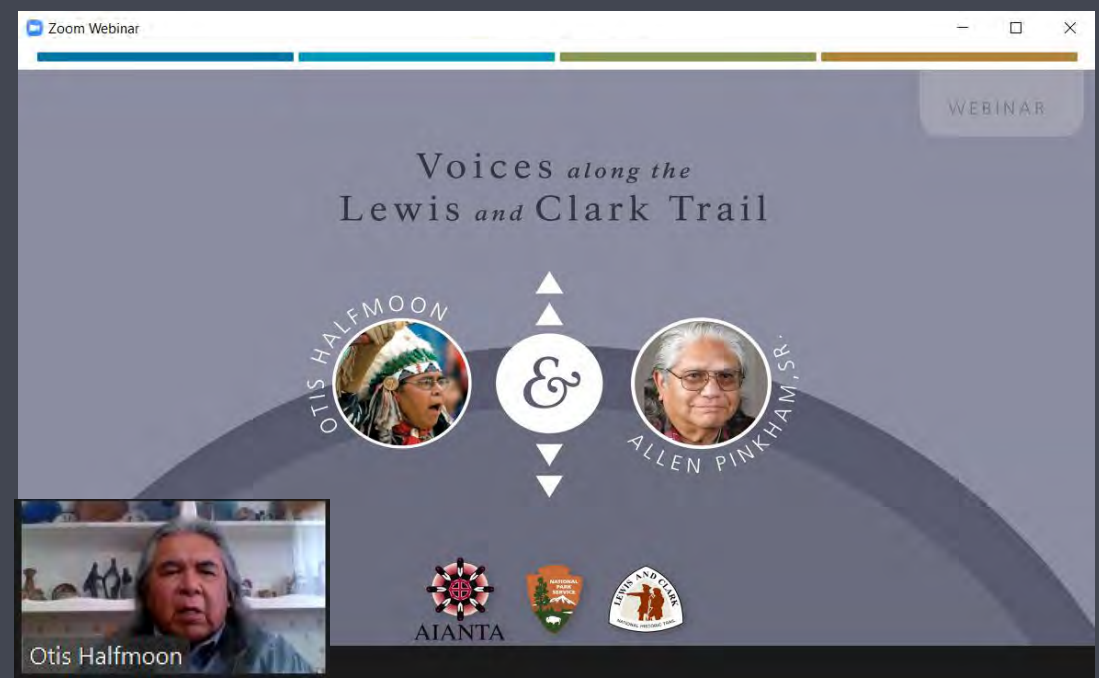
— Sherry L. Rupert  
Executive Director  
AIANTA



PARTNER

## Working with Our Partners

We thank all of our partners for their work in 2021 to commemorate and protect the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Pictured below is merely a snapshot of the many organizations Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is proud to work with.



- ▲ Lewis and Clark Trust Annual Meeting. October 2021.
- ▼ Voices along the Lewis and Clark Trail Webinar. May 2021.



Layer Visibility Bookmarks

**Map Legend**

World Boundaries and Places  
World Boundaries and Places

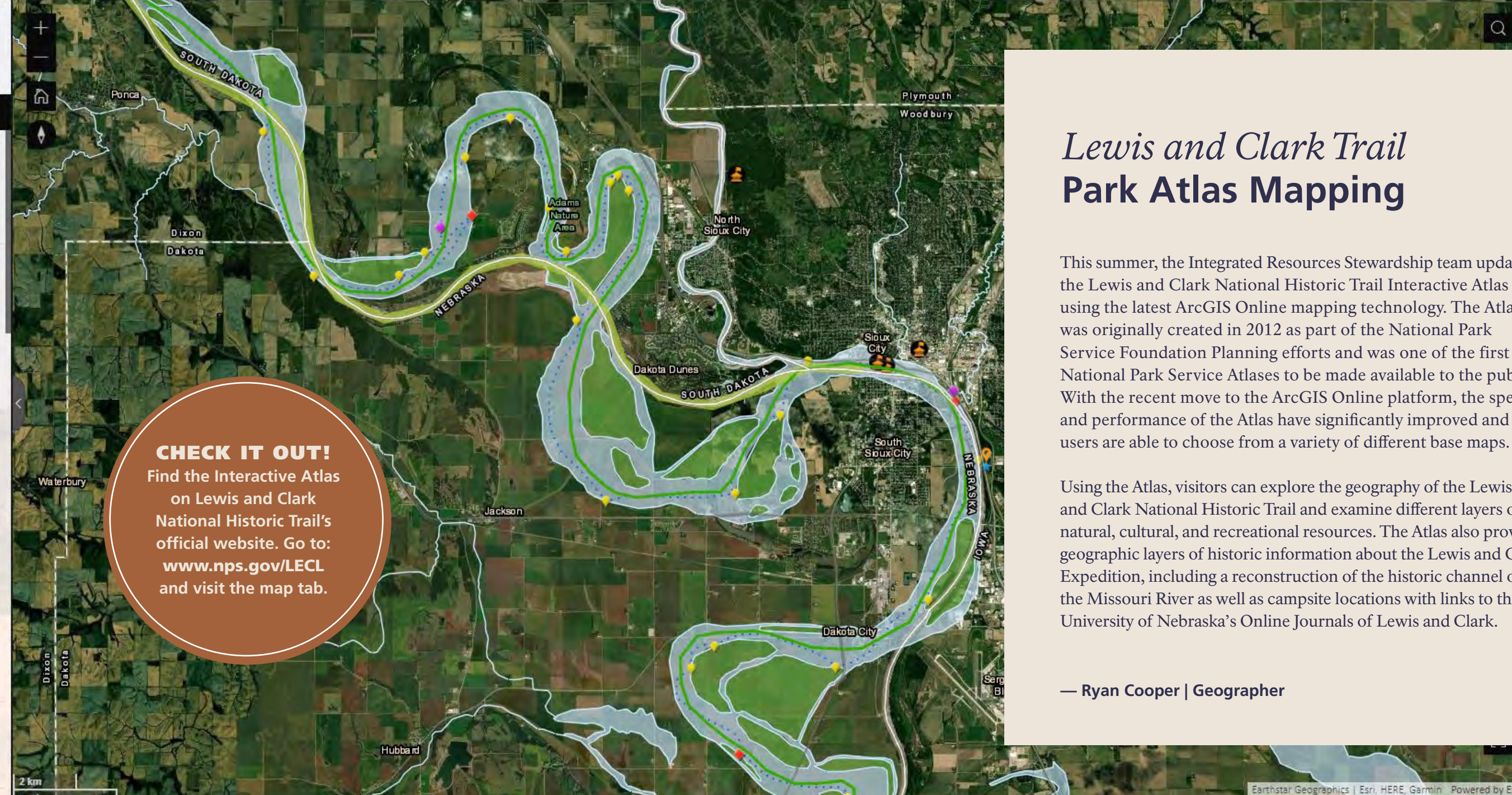
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail  
Congressionally Designated Route

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail  
Auto Route

**Officially Designated Water Trails**

Trail Name
Jefferson River Canoe Trail
Lower Columbia River Water Trail
Missouri National Recreational River Water Trail
Missouri River Breaks Water Trail
Missouri River Water Trail
Northwest Discovery Water Trail

**Visitor Centers and Museums**



**CHECK IT OUT!**  
Find the Interactive Atlas on Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail's official website. Go to: [www.nps.gov/LECL](http://www.nps.gov/LECL) and visit the map tab.

## Lewis and Clark Trail Park Atlas Mapping

This summer, the Integrated Resources Stewardship team updated the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interactive Atlas using the latest ArcGIS Online mapping technology. The Atlas was originally created in 2012 as part of the National Park Service Foundation Planning efforts and was one of the first National Park Service Atlases to be made available to the public. With the recent move to the ArcGIS Online platform, the speed and performance of the Atlas have significantly improved and users are able to choose from a variety of different base maps.

Using the Atlas, visitors can explore the geography of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and examine different layers of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. The Atlas also provides geographic layers of historic information about the Lewis and Clark Expedition, including a reconstruction of the historic channel of the Missouri River as well as campsite locations with links to the University of Nebraska's Online Journals of Lewis and Clark.

— Ryan Cooper | Geographer

### Panoramic River Mapping

Lewis and Clark Trail staff from the Integrated Resources Stewardship team helped to coordinate a project to collect next generation imagery and map data on several sections of the trail. The team worked with Terrain360, a company that uses technology to help facilitate outdoor experiences and inspire a love of the great outdoors, while also documenting the issues and challenges impacting our precious resources. The project included the collection of approximately 150 miles of 360-degree panoramic views, which were integrated with a digital map of historically significant areas and ecologically sensitive locations along six segments of the trail.

—Integrated Resources Stewardship Team

Photo: Terrain 360





**Tori Shaw Clemmons**

**AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer**  
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

**Hometown:** Birmingham, AL

**Degree:** M.A. in history and graduate certificate in public history, University of North Alabama

Tori's main focus this year is to increase accessibility and inclusivity. She is working on developing a program on Plains Indian Sign Language and is looking into developing resources for the visually impaired that could be provided for sites along the Lewis and Clark Trail.

After she completes her VISTA term, Tori plans to work in interpretive programming for a museum or the National Park Service.



**Monroe Pruett**

**AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer**  
Missouri River Basin  
Lewis and Clark Visitor Center

**Degree:** B.S. Environmental Science  
Minor in Studio Arts, Creighton University

Monroe is focused on grant-writing, cultivating new partnerships, conservation, and outdoor education. So far, she has already raised over \$100,000 for the Visitor Center. She is also working on developing interactive activities, selfie stations, bat houses, and a native plant and herb garden.

Monroe hopes to someday use her artistic skills and environmental science background for the National Park Service.

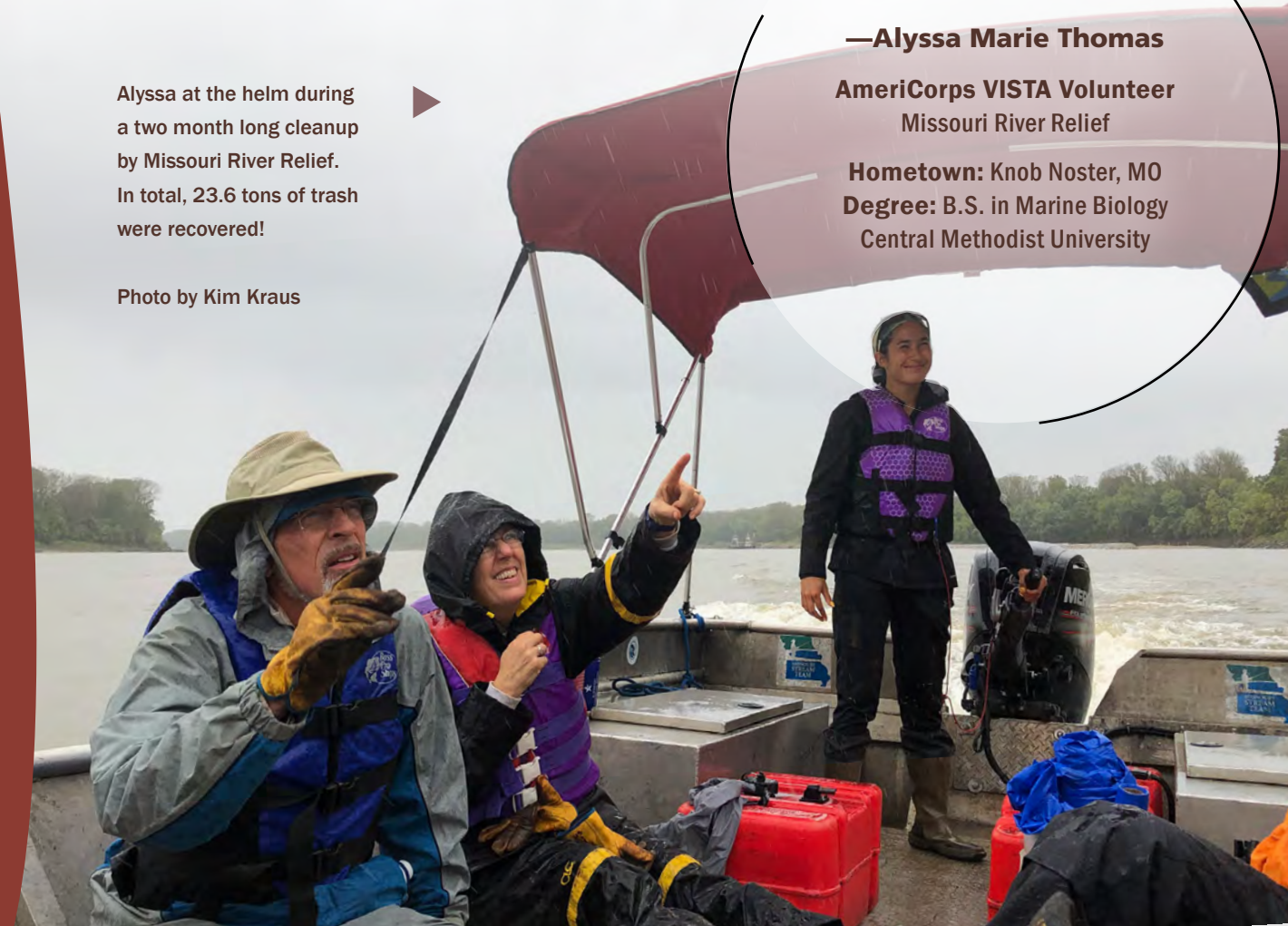
“ As someone who has lived in many places while growing up in a multicultural household, I love new experiences while learning more about our world and its people. I always kept myself very involved in extra-curricular activities, so I thrive off a busy schedule and hard work. With that being said, I hold Missouri River Relief’s mission close to my heart.

**Our mission is to connect people to the river.**

We do this through hands-on river cleanups, education programs, and recreation. My job is mainly helping with river cleanups, but I love participating in our other events in my free time. It is amazing to see the effect we have on people who have never been on the river, and helping them see the importance of it in their community! ”

Alyssa at the helm during a two month long cleanup by Missouri River Relief. In total, 23.6 tons of trash were recovered!

Photo by Kim Kraus



**—Alyssa Marie Thomas**

**AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer**  
Missouri River Relief

**Hometown:** Knob Noster, MO  
**Degree:** B.S. in Marine Biology  
Central Methodist University

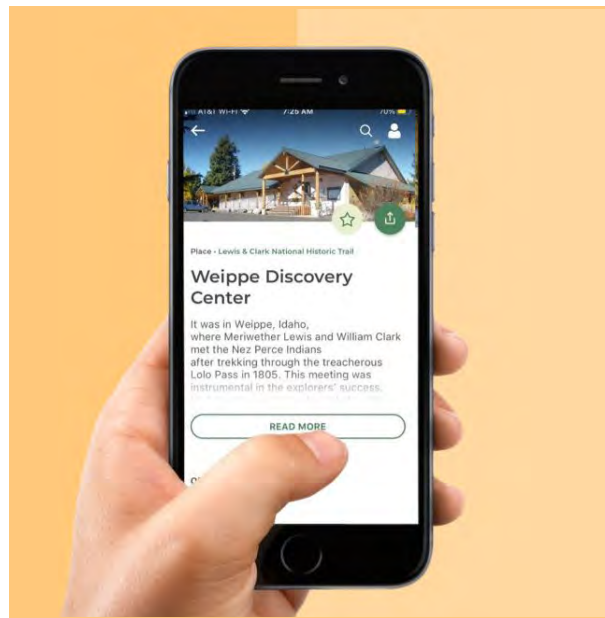




## Mother's Day Presentation with Marlene Rivero

By Nate Hess | Park Guide

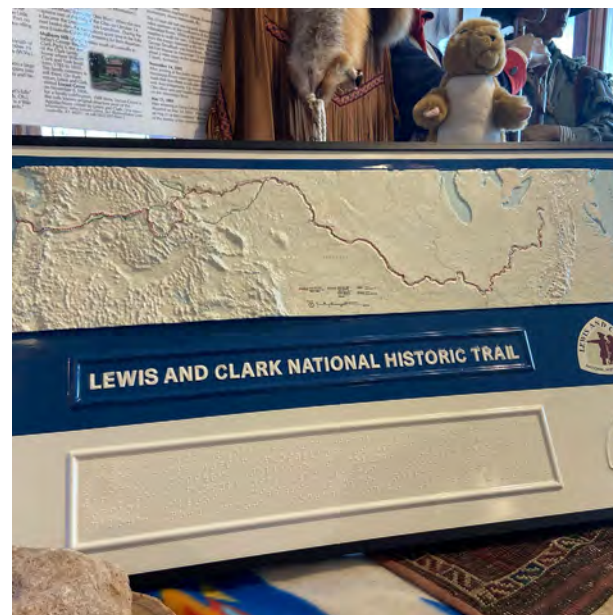
When the Corps of Discovery departed in the spring of 1804, all the members parted from family. This year, the Lewis and Clark NHT commemorated this family left behind with a Mother's Day program on May 9, 2021. The program featured first-person interpreter, Marlene Rivero, portraying York's mother, Rose. This was an entirely virtual event, free to the public, and allowed LECL to provide public programming in a safe manner during the pandemic.



## Detailer's Efforts NPS Mobile App Launch

By Tara Cuvelier | Visual Information Specialist Detailer

During my detail as a Visual Information Specialist for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, I was tasked with adding partner sites as place assets in preparation for the launch of the National Park Service's (NPS) new app, the NPS App. I edited, researched and wrote content for Lewis and Clark Trail's NPS webpage, tracked down hard-to-find images, and uploaded information for over 200 sites to the park's content management system. Download the free NPS App in the App Store or on Google Play. (Check out the Omaha visitor center's interpretive garden walking tour that I worked on!)



## Tactile Model Makes Trail Map More Accessible

The Lewis and Clark Expedition covered a great expanse of the continent: 4,900 miles. The map of this route is essential to the expedition's story. In 2021 we took a big step towards making the Lewis and Clark Trail map more accessible.

This year, custom tactile maps of the Lewis and Clark Trail were developed and distributed across the country. In addition to feeling the topographical relief of the United States, audiences can trace their way along the Lewis and Clark Trail, which is recessed or sunken. Coastlines are also recessed, or dropped a step. A braille caption lists the names of the states the trail passes through, and the names of the major rivers.



## Meet Our New Tribal Partnerships Specialist

Brye Lefler is excited and honored by the opportunity to work with Indigenous communities as the Tribal Partnerships Specialist for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Brye has worked with Tribal Nations across the U.S. on collaborative projects including cultural and natural resource management, traditional ecological knowledge studies, and interpretation. In Brye's previous work he has served as Cultural Anthropologist and Tribal Liaison at Yosemite National Park, Policy Analyst at the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Office of Tribal Relations, and Deputy Trail Administrator for the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail with the USDA Forest Service, among other roles. Brye lives with his family on an urban homestead in Portland, Oregon, where he can sometimes be found paddling the last 100 miles of the trail on the Columbia River.



## Teaming with American Council of the Blind

By Sarah Stannard | Visitor Center Manager

In July 2022 the City of Omaha will host the American Council for the Blind (ACB) Annual Conference. To ensure we provide accessible, engaging programming, visitor center and exhibits staff met with delegates from the group to showcase our resources and to plan programming for their group. Rangers will also work with ACB to ensure that all eligible conference attendees are able to receive their free, lifetime America the Beautiful Access Pass. While here, ACB delegates reviewed our new tactile map, which helps visitors with low or no vision to experience the magnitude of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the country's formidable terrain.



## Junior Ranger Program Wins NAI Media Award

By Caitlin Campbell | Visual Info. Specialist

In December 2021, the Lewis and Clark Trail Junior Ranger Program won a first-place media award from the National Association for Interpretation (NAI). Each year, agencies and organizations engaged in public outreach submit publications, videos, digital campaigns, and exhibits for competition in NAI's media awards. Entries are reviewed by a panel of professionals in the fields of interpretation, design, and media. The Lewis and Clark Trail Junior Ranger Activity Journal was awarded the first-place NAI Media Award in the book category after receiving top marks for thoughtful, inclusive messaging, and innovative online components.





EDUCATE



**Lewis and Clark Trail  
Headquarters Visitor Center**  
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

Ranger Baylea and Teacher Ranger Teacher (TRT) Jerrold stand ready to meet the public outside. A local middle school teacher, Jerrold worked with the Lewis and Clark Trail through the TRT program which partners teachers with the National Park Service.



*Adapting to Serve the Public:*  
**Outdoor Visitor Center 2021**

Impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 saw visitor center operations moved outside for a time, allowing rangers to provide in-person visitor services while maintaining staff and visitor safety. Employing an NPS-branded tent to shield them from the sultry summer sun, rangers installed both temporary exhibits and information libraries and provided interactive Junior Ranger programming and area orientation.

—Sarah Stannard | Visitor Center Operations Manager

In the summer of 2021, Lewis and Clark Trail Headquarters Outdoor Visitor Center staff,

- Contacted **15,723** people
- Inducted **891** Lewis and Clark Trail Junior Rangers
- Sent out **419** Lewis and Clark Trail information packets to meet email and phone requests



OUTDOOR VISITOR CENTER

The outdoor visitor center gave rangers a chance to engage with a whole new set of visitors and their humans! Ranger Shannon loves to tell tales about Captain Lewis' Newfoundland dog Seaman and inspire pups and people alike to have adventures of their own along the Lewis and Clark Trail.

Opposite page, left: Park rangers visit with a baby black-tailed prairie dog from Wildlife Encounters in Gretna, NE. Opposite page, right: Ranger inducts a group of Lewis and Clark Trail Junior Rangers on the riverfront in Omaha, NE.



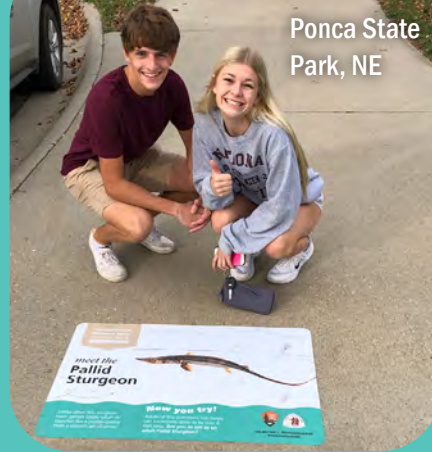


## Missouri River Wildlife Walk

In the summer of 2021, Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail teamed up with photographer Alex Wiles to feature a clear view of the “Big Muddy.” Twenty sites along the Missouri River were sent sidewalk stickers that featured images of river wildlife, fun tidbits, and kid-friendly activities. (Can you act like a bluegill sunfish? Use your hands to give yourself a tail and fan it back and forth!) While visitor facilities remained closed across the country, this outdoor temporary exhibit helped reach the public where they were.

—Interpretation & Education Team

Bluegill Sunfish. Alex Wiles



Ponca State Park, NE



Sergeant Floyd Interpretive Center  
Sioux City, IA



## 2021 Outreach Accomplishments

Connected with over **3,100** audience members of all ages.

Partnered with **26** schools and organizations.

Designed and presented over **15** new interpretation programs.

## 2022 Goals

Provide diverse and engaging programming for audiences of all ages and learning abilities, including English language learners and special education students

Build new partnerships with underserved community schools and Omaha-based organizations

Assist Omaha’s Title I schools in securing field trip funding to visit nearby sites along the Lewis and Clark Trail



## EDUCATE

## Community Outreach 2021

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail’s Visitor Center Operations Team spent an action-packed summer and fall meeting lots of Junior Rangers all around Omaha. We introduced them to tons of new games, crafts, community science, and exploration activities to teach them more about the Lewis and Clark Expedition and how to protect and observe the wildlife around them. The team loved working with young, new explorers and learned so much from them on how they view and interact with their environment. We made so many new friends and partners, and we can’t wait to learn and adventure with even more of you as we journey on into 2022!

—Shannon Smith | Education Technician

◀ Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail educators teamed up with FITGirl, Inc.’s Camp Empowerment, a summer leadership camp for girls ages 8 to 14, to teach fishing at Mahoney State Park in Ashland, NE.



BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

INTEGRATED RESOURCES

STEWARDSHIP

VOLUNTEERS

WNPA



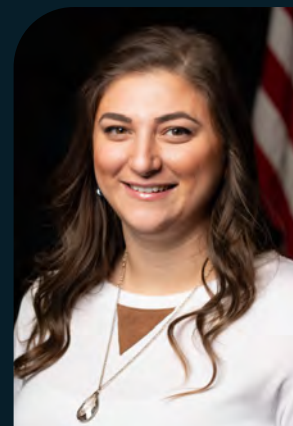
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INTERPRETATION & EDUCATION

OMAHA VISITOR CENTER

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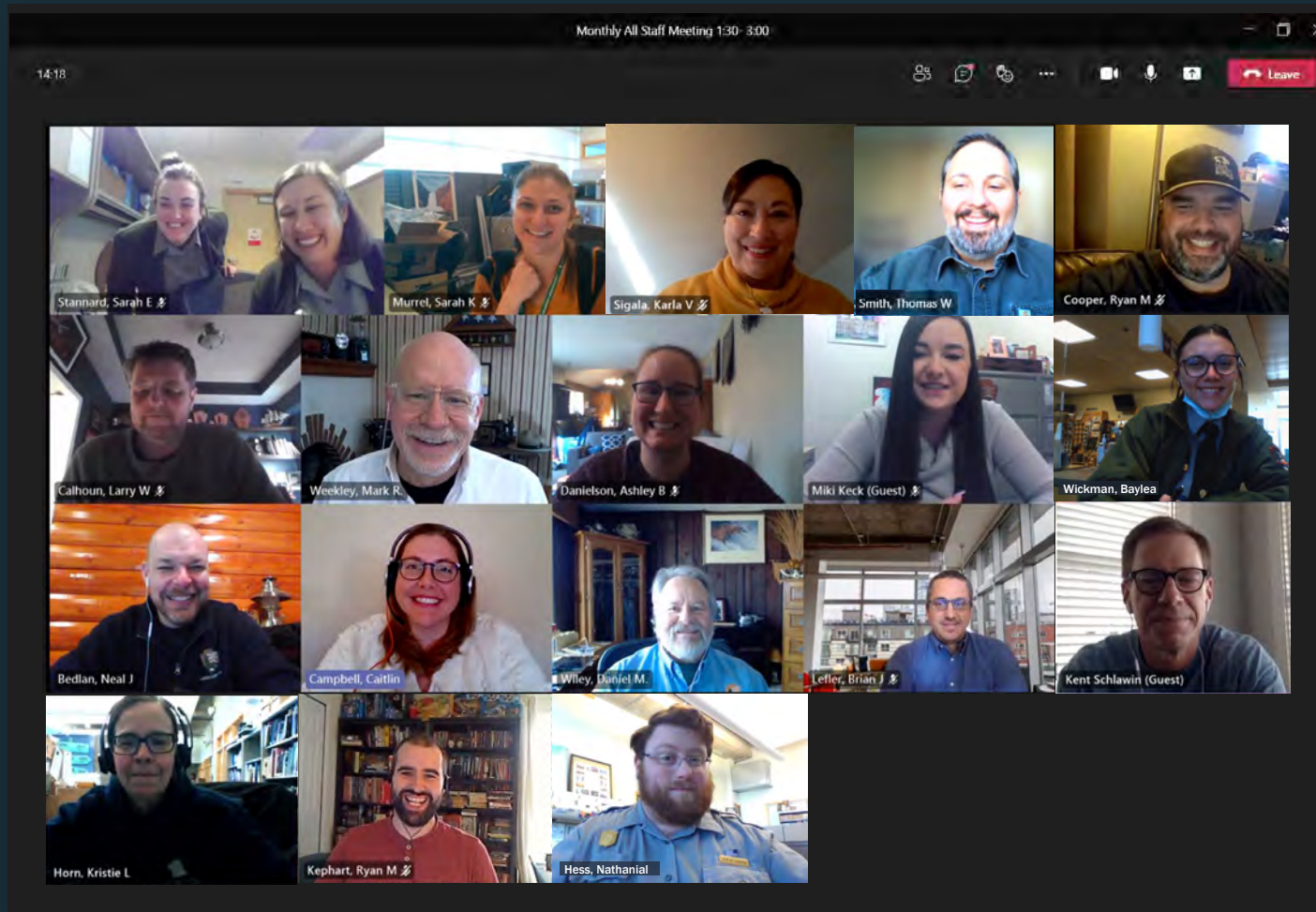
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Jerrold Warren  
Teacher-Ranger-Teacher





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