It is my pleasure once again to welcome all our friends and partners to take a look at our Annual Report. This past year, 2019, like each year, started with high hopes and many plans for the Lewis and Clark Trail.

We found that what actually took place exceeded the expectations we had at the start of the year. Clearly one of the most exciting changes was the extension of the Trail from Wood River, Illinois to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. While this had long been hoped for, when it actually came to pass everyone at the Trail Headquarters was thrilled and ready to get to work.

We soon found that this same feeling existed along the entire Trail. The dedication event hosted in Clarksville, Indiana was a highlight of my year. This event, like everything that happens on the Trail, was the result of dedicated partners and friends working together. Please take a few minutes and look at all we have accomplished together this past year!

Mark Weekley, Superintendent

Superintendent Mark Weekley overlooks Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the new starting point for Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Photo courtesy of John McNulty.
pittsburgh to the pacific sixteen states, 4,900 miles, one lewis and clark national historic trail

On May 12, 2019, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail was extended to add 1,200 miles from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to Wood River, Illinois. Two press events (Falls of the Ohio and Pittsburgh, PA), took place this year with a lot of enthusiasm from partners who have worked hard for years to recognize and document this preparatory section of the Trail.

While we have much to learn yet at Trail Headquarters, we are encouraged by the interactions in 2019. We are committed to leading a coordinated effort to incorporate the newly designated sections into existing projects, media, and programming. The Trail staff focused considerable effort and resources to learn about the potential partners, historic sites, and visitor opportunities along the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. We added this new section on all of our maps. We identified and reached out to more than 500 potential partners. We asked the governors of all the states with newly designated sections to recommend a road route to become the Auto Tour Route in their respective states. We conducted a series of Geotourism outreach meetings with prospective community partners from Pittsburgh to Huntington, West Virginia.

The response from state governments, local communities, and partners sets the Trail extension up as a promising attraction for Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail visitors. Partners and partner organizations are critical if the National Park Service is to achieve its legislative mandate to administer the Trail.

The length and complexity of the Trail and the fact that very little of the Trail is under National Park Service ownership means that most activities must be undertaken in collaboration with partners, landowners, and governmental organizations.

We look forward to see what is in store in the new decade. To Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia - welcome!
GO on a Trail poster used to promote the challenge.

Observation taken in Louisville, Kentucky.

GLOBE observations taken along the Ohio River.

Observation taken at Canoe Camp, Idaho.

LEWIS AND CLARK
NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

Download the NASA GLOBE Observer app and collect Earth observations along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

Learn More: go.nps.gov/GO-on-a-Trail
GO on a Trail (GLOBE Observer on a Trail) was a citizen science data challenge jointly hosted by the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and the NASA GLOBE Observer team between June 1 and September 2, 2019. It was designed in collaboration with both Trail and NASA-funded scientists to document land cover in each of the major ecoregions along the Trail and to assess land cover change at significant historical sites.

NASA and the Trail invited the public to download the NASA GLOBE Observer app and take land cover observations using their cell phones. By the end of the campaign, more than 1,000 land cover observations were collected. This data will form a data set that can be used by scientists to study a wide range of issues and challenges along the Trail.

Lewis and Clark’s journals provide a scientific point of reference for the land conditions over 150 years before the first satellite images of the earth were produced. These satellite images have been used to create maps of the Earth which build upon the scientific legacy of early map-makers. GLOBE Observers contributed to a modern scientific journal, produced by many people, using tools like cameras and GPS on mobile devices which were organized with the GLOBE Observer software. Researchers, students, and decision-makers can use these ground observations on their own or compare them with satellite images, models, or maps they create.

As part of the campaign, the team collaborated on a series of print and digital products that went to more than 150 visitor centers and museums along the Trail. These products included observation stations, posters, postcards with instructions, and GO on a Trail stickers. We created a new map to help guide participants to locations where we requested observations. Lewis and Clark NHT and GLOBE Observer also conducted a joint social media campaign with shared daily posts, and a Facebook Live/Instagram/Snapchat story. The latter had a reach of 2.2 million people.

Thank you to all of our great partners who helped make this campaign a success. We will keep you updated in the future as the scientific data set collected is used by scientists studying the Trail.
It took this wonderful group of people to make the event a success!

The Lewis & Clark Discovery Center at Hell's Gate State Park served as the setting for the Facebook Live. This beautiful location along the Snake River made for a perfect background.

Autumn Burdick, NASA GLOBE Outreach Coordinator films segments for the Instagram/Snapchat story. The confluence of the Clearwater and Snake Rivers is seen in the background.

Three samples from the Instagram/Snapchat stories. Created to promote the GO on a Trail challenge, they had an international reach.
As part of the GO on a Trail citizen science campaign, the Trail coordinated with partners to hold a Facebook Live event at Hells Gate State Park in Idaho. Two communications products came from this event: a Facebook Live and an Instagram/Snapchat story. The Facebook Live was broadcast on the NASA Earth Facebook account and shared by more than 160 people or accounts including the main NASA and NPS pages. The Facebook Live platform allowed us to reach more than 120,000 people with targeted, long-form story telling.

The Snapchat/Instagram story was written to convey the challenge along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and also to focus on the international aspect of participation. It featured several GLOBE students, alumni, and partners (from Kenya, Alaska, Estonia, and the Dominican Republic) in addition to NASA GO scientists, Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and Nez Perce National Historical Park rangers. Between the GO on a Trail Snapchat story and Facebook Live, we reached over 2.2 million people (with 1.9 million of those reached on Instagram alone).

This was a multi-agency success. Idaho State Parks hosted the event at Hells Gate State Park. They brought in Wi-Fi boosters and park staff assisted as videographers and behind-the-scenes support. Back home, NASA and NPS staff monitored the chat to send some questions to the live presenters and answer others.

The Facebook Live was a great success and helped illustrate the strength of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail community.

Watch the archived Facebook Live at: https://bit.ly/2PwFSFB.

On camera talent from left to right:
Autumn Burdick - NASA GLOBE Outreach Coordinator
Ashley Danielson - Volunteer and Partnership Specialist, Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail
Steven Kinzer - Volunteer Program Supervisor, Hells Gate State Park
Peder Nelson - Science Lead, Oregon State University
David Griffith - Scientist, University of Idaho
Vivian Wilson - Park Ranger, Nez Perce National Historical Park
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail has partnered 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.

Over a three-year period, AIANTA will conduct interviews with and make site visits to Tribes in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas, to develop content and create regional itineraries that include Native and Tribally owned destinations and experiences along the route. Completed content will be showcased on two websites: www.LewisAndClark.travel and www.NativeAmerica.travel.

“We are excited to work with the National Park Service to help Tribes along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail share their stories,” said Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director of AIANTA. “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.”

More than 215 years after Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery commenced their two-year journey, this program expands on the groundwork, contributions and learnings from the Circle of Tribal Advisors of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration (2003-2006) and offers new opportunities for Tribes to share their stories to visitors from around the globe through cultural tourism.

Tourism Website
www.lewisandclark.travel

To Make a Nomination
www.lewisandclark.travel/register

Community Partner Information
https://lewisandclark.travel/partner-community-program/
The team continued to roll out the Geotourism program for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail in partnership with Solimar International. The program is intended to promote sustainable tourism and encourage travelers to visit unique, local businesses and points of interest in communities along the Trail.

In the spring, we launched the new LCNHT tourism website, www.lewisandclark.travel. The site aggregates user-generated content showcasing things to do and places to visit that were nominated by residents along the Trail. You are invited to nominate a place to the website. To get started, go to www.lewisandclark.travel/register.

Following the website launch, we introduced the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Community Partnership Program, the first program of its kind for cities and towns along the Trail. The program is designed to assist communities with economic development through tourism while engaging residents to see the Trail as a resource and asset. Participating communities will become designated LCNHT partner communities, and receive benefits that include promotion and storytelling on the Trail’s tourism website, www.lewisandclark.travel.

The team worked with the American Indian and Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) to roll out a similar program for Native communities. In September, NPS and Solimar attended AIANTA’s annual conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma in order to introduce the program to Native tourism professionals from across the country.

In the fall, Solimar International began a series of outreach and engagement meetings to introduce the program to communities in the newly-designated section of the Trail from St. Louis to Pittsburgh. More information about the community partnership program and online application is available at https://lewisandclark.travel/partner-community-program/.
Many visitors follow the Lewis and Clark story by way of the auto tour routes. With the recent trail extension, auto tour routes are in need of designation. The responsibility of designating an auto tour route rests with the federally designated trail administrator. In the case of the Lewis and Clark NHT, the National Park Service fulfills this responsibility. The Lewis and Clark NHT has been seeking assistance and suggestions from states on where the auto tour route should run through their state.

An auto tour route for a national historic trail follows an existing public highway that parallels the actual historic trail route. The route is officially recognized and marked with signs bearing the Lewis and Clark NHT emblem. The auto tour route helps facilitate access for visitors to connect to recreational, interpretive, educational, and tourism opportunities. A major goal for the auto tour route is bringing awareness and recognition to the Lewis and Clark NHT on public highways near the historic route.
conserving 620 acres

The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is proud to support the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation’s (RMEF) March 2019 purchase of 620 acres from a conservation-minded family in Wolf Creek, Montana, and subsequent conveyance of the property to the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest (HLCNF).

The property is situated along the Rocky Mountain Front Range east of the Bob Marshall Wilderness. It is adjacent to the HLCNF on the west and south sides, Bureau of Land Management property to the east, and the family’s property to the north. It is a very popular recreation and hunting area with significant wildlife habitat and high public use on the surrounding public lands.

The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and the Road to the Buffalo Trail benefit from the preservation of the area’s cultural and historic values. The property also contains portions of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail. This acreage was a priority for the HLCNF and was ranked No. 9 nationally on the Land and Water Conservation Fund USFS FY2018 priority list. The acquisition of it enables the HLCNF to prevent future development by outside sources, to conserve the public view shed, and to improve public access to approximately 1,500 acres.

To protect the natural, cultural, and recreational resources of the Trail, proposed actions with the potential to negatively impact these resources and visitor experience are reviewed. This year we reviewed 259 proposals from Federal, state, local, and private entities.
Superintendent Mark Weekley speaks at the press event held at Falls of the Ohio State Park.

Karla and Ashley meet Omar, the new troll under the bridge, along Omaha's Riverfront.

Ryan Kephart and Neal Bedlan staff the registration table during the Railroads in Native America Symposium.

Dan Wiley and Tom Smith take an ice cream break in Missoula, Montana.

The Goldenrods in full bloom in the native garden, just outside the Trail Headquarters in Omaha, NE.

Superintendent Mark Weekley addresses the membership at the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Annual Meeting held at the Missouri History Museum.

Ryan Cooper tastes the cookies provided by the Lewis and Clark Society of America in Hartford, IL.

A traditional native game used during the teacher workshop at Yellowstone National Park.

Karla Sigala meets with partners to discuss the current condition of wayside exhibits along the river in Omaha, NE and Council Bluffs, IA.

Staff takes time to learn hoops and arrow, a traditional native game during a planning meeting at Lewis and Clark State Park in Onawa, Iowa.

Staff members take a photo in St. Louis during the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Annual Meeting.

Smiling faces after a successful Facebook Live event at Hells Gate State Park, Idaho.
Neal Bedlan and Frank (volunteer at the L&C Interp Center in Great Falls, Montana) work side by side during the August Adventure Challenge.

Rangers Nate Hess and Ryan Kephart at Earth Day Omaha.

Ryan Cooper and Ashley Danielson enjoy the newly installed exhibits at Gateway Arch National Park.

Sign dedication in Pennsylvania, overlooking Brunot's Island.

Hasan Davis portrays York during an event at Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site. Williston, ND.

The Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corps at the Missouri History Museum during the opening ceremony of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Annual Meeting.

Ranger Julie Blanchard welcomes OMAR the troll to Omaha’s Riverfront under the Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge.

Ashley meets a furry volunteer at Lewis & Clark State Park in Hartford, IL.

Educational opportunity at Two Medicine Fight Site, Montana.

Attendees of the LCHF Annual Meeting look at primary documents and maps at the Missouri Historical Society Library and Research Center.

Ryan Kephart excited for his first visit to Falls of the Ohio State Park, Clarksville, IN.

At Falls of the Ohio State Park.
Hasan Davis portrays York at Travelers’ Rest State Park. Photos courtesy of Dale Dufour.

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail collaborated with Mr. Hasan Davis, Travelers’ Rest State Park, and the Travelers’ Rest Preservation and Heritage Association, to bring unique programming to their visitors for a public performance and book signing on June 29, 2019.

Mr. Davis is well known for his stirring, powerful, and masterfully researched first-person performances as enslaved member of the expedition, York. He also offered a brown bag luncheon presentation for community members where he described his experiences as an African American, and how those experiences informed his portrayal of York. Travelers’ Rest State Park was delighted to have the opportunity to provide a platform for Mr. Davis to perform, and share both his and York’s experiences with visitors and locals of Missoula County, Montana.

As one community member put it, “I don’t usually travel this far for entertainment. My trip to Travelers’ Rest was certainly worth it. Commonly you hear about the Captains of the story, or the Sergeants, but you don’t get people presenting much information about York. This was a real treat. To present information about York the way he did, I don’t think I’ve ever seen anything like it before. And I’ve been learning about Lewis and Clark since I was a kid. It’s hard to talk about slavery. Mr. Davis is a bit courageous to take on this hard subject, and give it a voice. Thank you to Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and the folks at Travelers’ Rest State Park and the Travelers’ Rest Preservation and Heritage Association for bringing us this great event.”
In March, Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail honored Dr. Stephanie Wood with the Outstanding Partner Award. Dr. Wood is the Principal Investigator for the University of Oregon on an agreement with the trail for Honoring Tribal Legacies - a project to support educators on the inclusion of indigenous perspectives within their classroom curriculum.

According to Superintendent Mark Weekley, “Dr. Wood continues to be an invaluable part of our Honoring Tribal Legacies team. Her willingness to be flexible, innovate, and build relationships has been key to the success of the program.”

Among other accomplishments, Dr. Wood was awarded a $180,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to facilitate a 2019 Summer Teacher Institute (See Pages 22-23).

Dr. Wood also successfully completed a Primary Sources project, with the support of Western National Parks Association’s Research Grant. The final product can be found at www.honoringtriballegacies.org. These primary sources and Dr. Wood’s contextualizations provide educators with meaningful primary source material for teachers and students.

Dr. Wood graciously accepted the award and said, “The National Park Service is so very generous to sponsor this endeavor to bring Native voices to the fore and create a more balanced, shared history of the West.”
Ashley Danielson, the Volunteer and Partnership Specialist for Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, was awarded the 2019 Freeman Tilden Award for the Midwest Region. The Freeman Tilden Award is the highest award presented to an individual National Park Service interpreter in the region.

Ashley developed a partnership with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to collaborate on education, interpretation, and public outreach. The collaboration included many facets, starting with a small toy replica of “Seaman,” the Newfoundland working dog that accompanied the Lewis and Clark expedition. The toy dog traveled to the International Space Station on a mission to commemorate the trail. Ashley worked with Gateway Arch National Park to produce a live broadcast for students from the space station on NASA’s television station. The partnership with NASA also included the GLOBE observer program, GO on a Trail, which incorporated citizen scientists taking land cover observations with a mobile phone application. That helps NASA confirm satellite imagery locations and creates a dataset that can be used by trail managers in the future to inform on resource protection issues. Just as Lewis and Clark recorded natural resource observations, the public can take observations. Congratulations, Ashley!

The distribution of Lewis and Clark interpretive wayside exhibits continued throughout the year. Thirteen panels were shipped to locations across the Trail, at no cost, ready to be installed.

With the extension of the Trail, the interpretive panel will need to be redesigned to include the additional 1,200 miles. This action item is on our list for future projects to be completed.

Thank you to those sites that have replaced the panel - they’re looking great! If you have a Lewis and Clark panel in your local area that needs replacement, email lecl_communications@nps.gov. We’ll gladly ship one to you at no cost.
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail was a proud partner of the first Railroads in Native America: Reflections on the 150th Anniversary of the Transcontinental Construction Symposium. The three-day event, led by the Union Pacific Railroad Museum, brought together scholars, artists, musicians, tribal members, and representatives from tribal governments from across the country.

The symposium took place at the University of Nebraska at Omaha on September 12-15, 2019 and served to address the significant impacts of railroads in Indian Country.

This year was significant because it marked the 150th anniversary of the union of Central Pacific and Union Pacific railroad tracks at Promontory Summit, Utah. Union Pacific laid their first mile of track in Omaha, Nebraska and historic mile “zero” lies just across the river in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Former Lewis and Clark NHT Superintendent Gerard Baker (Hidatsa) served as a keynote speaker at the symposium and current Superintendent, Mark Weekley, introduced him.
The NPS Outside Science (inside parks) series shares stories of crucial, creative science. Each episode, produced in collaboration with Colorado State University, highlights the many ways young people get involved in science in parks.

Each episode is part citizen science, and part education; the videos cover topics such as sea turtles, light pollution, toxic algal blooms, and mercury levels in dragonfly larvae.

In August 2018, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail filmed an Outside Science feature with our partner Missouri River Relief in Columbia, Missouri.

This video, published in April 2019, highlights Missouri River Relief’s program, Missouri River Days. This program brings Columbia, Missouri fourth grade students out to the Missouri River for a day of exploration.

You too can float down the Missouri River with this excited group of 4th graders as they get a hands-on experience in park science.

Watch it here: https://go.usa.gov/xpfxG

Missouri River Days is supported in part by an Open Outdoors for Kids Field Trip Grant from the National Park Foundation applied for jointly by Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and Missouri River Relief.

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In fiscal year 2019, 52 sites and partners of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail reported more than 2,600 volunteers along the trail who contributed 164,593 hours of service.

That is the equivalent of over 78 full-time staff members and converts to a labor value of more than $4 million.

Volunteerism is an important means of engagement and we thank you for your hard work on behalf of the public.

The National Park Service has a new Junior Ranger booklet co-designed in partnership with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The project is part of a multi-agency effort and the booklet features the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail mascot Seaman Junior.

Complete the activities while you learn about: the Moon, space vehicles that will take humans to the Moon and to Mars, national parks, and the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail across the United States.

The Spaceflight Explorer Junior Ranger book is also a free printable booklet with: math puzzles, thought questions, spot the difference pictures, matching puzzles, scrambled words, and anagrams.

The trail distributed more than 2,000 copies of the book to visitor centers and museums along the trail.

Download the booklet here: https://go.nasa.gov/38yYYU4
This year, Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail participated in the Virtual Student Federal Service program sponsored by the Department of State. In this program, students work on projects that advance the work of government on multiple fronts; federal employees connect with students from diverse backgrounds and skills.

We brought on four students to work on a variety of projects for the Trail. These included a social media campaign about the auto tour route, trip plans for the website, a website assessment, updating our partner contact list, and working with NASA on the data from the GO on a Trail campaign. These students will continue in their positions until May of 2020.

This year, Trail staff continued to build and improve the Trail’s website, nps.gov/lecl. The website is an essential tool in our effort to commemorate and protect the Trail. It is a gateway for many who are interested in learning more about the Lewis and Clark expedition and helps visitors with trip planning. Recent additions include the trail extension of the NP Map, added content to the state specific pages, and more articles on various Lewis and Clark related subjects. Currently, the Trail has the third highest total of shared content on the National Park Service’s main page, nps.gov.

As the National Park Service continues to improve the functionality for mobile devices and apps, the Trail is well positioned to showcase our content to new audiences.

**website improvements**

**virtual interns**

Morgan Lindblad, University of Michigan
Kevin Mooz, William and Mary
Heath Hilton, Ivy Tech
Rachel David, Arizona State University

**social media reach**

Facebook: 20,407 page likes @lewisandclarknht
Instagram: 2,568 followers @lewisandclarknht
Twitter: 3,226 followers @LewisClarkTrail

**trail news**

500,000 page views in 2019
Sites Visited by Participants

- Montana State University Billings
- Pompeys Pillar National Monument
- Plenty Coups State Park
- Pictograph Cave State Park
- An Apsáalooke Parade in Lodge Grass, MT
- Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument
- Little Bighorn College on the Crow Reservation
- Chief Dull Knife College
- The 4th of July Powwow on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation
- Medicine Rocks State Park
- Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site
- Fort Buford State Historic Site
- Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center
- Theodore Roosevelt National Park
- Fort Mandan State Recreation Area
- On-A-Slant Indian Village
- Flaming Arrow Archaeological Site
- Double Ditch Indian Village State Historic Site
- North Dakota Heritage Center and State Museum
Since 2017, Dr. Stephanie Wood, University of Oregon, has been designing a very special project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. This Summer Institute grant provided funds for 25 Kindergarten-12th grade school teachers to travel a segment of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and learn about various historical and contemporary American Indian cultures and perspectives. This “Discovering Native Histories” institute was a spin-off of the Honoring Tribal Legacies project. Trail Education Specialist, Tom Smith, supported the planning of this endeavor, and presented on a variety of topics during the institute.

Teachers were selected from a national pool of over 100 applicants, with the selected participants coming from all over the country. The Institute began in Billings, MT at Montana State University Billings, then travelled the Auto Tour Route for the next three weeks culminating in Bismarck at the North Dakota Heritage Center and State Museum (NDHCSM). Dr. Wood collaborated with affiliated tribes and educational institutions. Teachers engaged in experiential learning, place-based education, plus academic lectures from leading scholars and indigenous elders.

Native educators such as Calvin Grinnell and Ruth Buffalo (Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara); Loren Yellowbird (Arikara); Alisha Deegan (Hidatsa/Sahnish); Conrad Fisher (Northern Cheyenne); Dr. Janine Pease (Apsáalooke), Olivia Rose Williamson (Apsáalooke), Dr. Shane Doyle (Apsáalooke), Dr. Carmelita Lamb (Lipan Band of Apache), Dakota Goodhouse (Hunkpapa Lakota/Yanktonai) and Dr. Timothy Mc Cleary (Adopted Apsáalooke). All contributed to the teacher learning along the Trail. Tom Smith accompanied participants for the entire journey, providing context to various sites, events, and people. Erik Holland (NDHCSM) similarly traveled with the teachers and shared his expertise.
Top: A very competitive game of Double Ball.
Bottom: Elder Don Fish (second from right) teaches how to play the Dice Game.

Top: Participants learn and practice hoop and arrow.
Bottom: Willow branches utilized by participants in making their own set of traditional games.
Louisa May Alcott famously wrote, “It takes two flints to make a fire.” At Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, we are but one flint. It is because of so many wonderful partners along the Trail, that we are able to collaborate and accomplish great things.

For the third year in a row, the Trail collaborated with a number of key partners to co-host an Honoring Tribal Legacies residential workshop in Yellowstone National Park. The result was 25 educators and interpreters receiving training on Honoring Tribal Legacies, professional development credits, as well as a certification from the International Traditional Games Society. This workshop continues to grow in popularity, as we look to host it again in July 2020.

So many partners contribute to make this a success year after year. First, the Youth Programs Division at Yellowstone National Park - without the vision, kindness, and hospitality of Bob Fuhrman, Beth Taylor, and their entire team of capable rangers, this workshop could never happen. They are not just providing space. They foster a meaningful learning environment from which we all benefit.

In addition, we are grateful to collaborate with our friends group, Lewis and Clark Trust Inc. For our most recent workshop last October, the Trust committed $10,000 towards the participants’ certification from International Traditional Games Society. The Society, likewise, has become an integral partner to our ongoing success.

Yellowstone Forever is the official nonprofit partner of Yellowstone National Park. They continue to be meaningful contributors by offering buses and drivers, as well as including their staff as participants whom also receive training.

University of Oregon is a major partner in this effort as well. Now in an agreement with the National Park Service, the University’s Dr. Stephanie Wood and others provide administrative support, speakers, food, and various logistical support for the workshops in all phases.
endings and new beginnings

Honoring Tribal Legacies has been a project of pride for the Trail for quite some time. Since 2010, we have collaborated with University of Oregon, indigenous communities, and curriculum designers from around the country to create a meaningful solution for teachers to include indigenous perspectives of the Lewis and Clark Trail and region. Too often, these topics are covered exclusively in the history classroom. Honoring Tribal Legacies, however, is a teaching model that incorporates indigenous perspectives (both historical and contemporary) into all classroom subject matters. To date, we have produced a two-volume handbook, giving teachers a framework for how to engage indigenous communities and incorporate them into their own curricula. Finally, we have nine Teachings (units), spanning all grade bands, which teachers can present in their entirety, or piecemeal as they see fit for their students.

This most recent five-year agreement with University of Oregon concluded in 2019, and entailed all of the conferences, teacher workshops, and engagements highlighted here, two new Teachings (for a grand total of nine), and our new informational short film, vimeo.com/336440118.
In August, Trail staff collaborated with the Blackfeet Nation’s Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Blackfeet elder Don Fish, and Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Portage Route Chapter member Larry Epstein to visit the Two Medicine Fight Site. Under the guidance and expertise of Mr. Fish, Mr. Epstein, and Blackfeet Cultural Resources Field Technician, Terry Whitcomb, Trail staff had the opportunity to walk the grounds of the area widely believed to be the location of the Two Medicine Fight Site.

This is where, on or around July 27, 1806, an altercation ensued that resulted in the killing of two Blackfeet males. Frequently pausing to refer to the journals and the oral history accounts, this visit gave staff a much stronger understanding of this tragic event - the only violent encounter resulting in death during the entire expedition.

Staff learned that the Blackfeet refer to this as the “Murder Site,” or “Kill Site.” The Blackfeet account is particularly adamant that the two males killed were young boys, probably preteens, who were guarding a horse herd. All accounts refer to a complete language barrier, which most certainly had some effect on the outcome.

Considered hallowed ground by all, the Trail is grateful to the Blackfeet Nation, Mr. Fish, Mr. Epstein, and Mr. Whitcomb for their expertise and kind hospitality during our visit.
Thank you Julie!

I love all the things you brought for us. Thank you for teaching us SO MANY interesting facts about Lewis and Clark.

- Lewis and Clark's expedition took more than 2 YEARS!
- They caught a prairie dog and sent it to Jefferson
- Lewis and Clark met with many Indian nations.

Thank you for all the things you brought and taught us!
Omaha, Nebraska is home to Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail’s Headquarters and Visitor Center. The park rangers in Omaha get to meet and work with people from all aspects of the community. The schools in the metro area learn the Lewis and Clark story when they are in fourth grade and often come to see us at the visitor center for programs. We attend many outreach events around town to promote the visitor center and the National Park Service. Some of those events include the Fort Omaha Intertribal Powwow, Earth Day Omaha, Outdoor Discovery Days, World O! Water, and two student festivals at Lauritzen Gardens.

The visitor center staff was lucky enough to be visited by the official Buddy Bison Ambassador Joslyn Stamp. The sixth grader serves as the official goodwill ambassador of the National Park Trust, helping to educate the American public about their national parks. Joslyn, along with Ranger Ryan Kephart and Buddy Bison, learned about the Lewis and Clark expedition, toured the visitor center, walked across the Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge, and learned how to ride an electric bicycle (e-bike) along Omaha’s riverfront.

Buddy Bison Ambassador Joslyn Stamp and Ranger Ryan overlooking the Missouri River. Photo © Margaret Stamp
The purpose of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is to commemorate the 1803 to 1806 Lewis and Clark Expedition through the identification; protection; interpretation; public use and enjoyment; and preservation of historic, cultural, and natural resources associated with the expedition and its place in U.S. and tribal history.