

AUTUMN 2025

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

News



News From PHILOSOPHICAL HALL

Patrick Spero, *Chief Executive Officer*

When one sits in Philosophical Hall,
one cannot help but think about the past, and the past year for the
Society was marked by great accomplishments and change.

Those who have studied the Society's history know that is a common pattern. The institution may be old and its halls hallowed, but it is not an artifact. The APS has always evolved to meet the needs of the moment, and in every generation, the Society has pushed the frontiers of knowledge—most recently by establishing one of the first funds for astrobiology at the start of this century. Indeed, the Society has spent the past years, beginning with the strategic planning listening sessions in 2022, planning what the Society should do next. Last year these plans began to be put in motion.

As you will note on the pages that follow, the revival of the APS Press is bearing fruit. The Press's list (page 24) was the first to reflect its renewed energy and vision and gives us a preview of the robust pipeline of new books. Reviews of the Society's books have now appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, *The Atlantic*, and the *New York Review of Books*, all signs that the Press is producing conversation-starting scholarship, exactly what the APS embodies. The past year at the Press was also marked by an important transition in leadership. After nearly two years spent developing the Press's new direction and laying the



Cover: Lauren Wiseman-Jones, APS Lewis and Clark Fund Field Scholar, collects data on the Titus group of mountain gorillas. Between October 2023 and July 2024, Wiseman-Jones investigated the behavioral and physiological responses of Virunga Mountain gorillas to social and anthropogenic stressors in Volcanoes National Park, Rwanda. Photograph courtesy of the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund.

News

Volume 27

Published yearly by the
American Philosophical Society
104 South 5th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106-3387

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Guests enjoy activities, games, and snacks during the May APS Family Fun Day in the Jefferson Garden. Photo by Catherine Person.



Patrick Spero in conversation with Governor of Pennsylvania Josh Shapiro during the April 2025 APS Meeting. Photo by Kelly & Massa.

foundations for its future, Peter Dougherty (APS 2023) stepped down and the Society recruited Kimberly Guinta to take the reins. Kim brings over two decades of experience in scholarly publishing and most recently spent nearly 10 years at Rutgers University Press, where she served as Associate Press Director, Editorial Director, and acquisitions editor for anthropology and two other lists.

In April, the Library & Museum opened *Philadelphia, The Revolutionary City* (page 14), the culmination of a years-long collaboration between Philadelphia-area libraries and museums. The exhibition was inspired by an APS-led effort to create a major digital repository that documents the American Revolution in Philadelphia. Launched in 2019, that portal now holds more than 50,000 pages of manuscripts from over 8 partners and promises to be a signal contribution to the nation's semiquincentennial next year. The exhibition that opened in Philosophical Hall showcases several stories uncovered during this project and provides a new perspective on Philadelphia during the American Revolution. As of this writing, reviewers have raved about the exhibition and visitation is on pace to match our pre-pandemic levels.

The APS continues to push the frontiers of knowledge from the Research Department housed in Philosophical Hall. Last year, we

awarded over 250 grants, and, in the spirit of the Society's motto, *nullo discrimine*, supported all fields of knowledge without discrimination, with grants in fields ranging from anthropology to zoology. This year also marks the 20th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Fund (page 10). Since its inception, this program has provided grants to over 1,000 researchers conducting original field work on all seven continents. It is a remarkable record, but we are not sitting on our laurels. To celebrate this anniversary, the department is holding a major international conference, "The Future of Field Work: The Promise and Perils of Research in the 21st Century" on October 23–24. The conference may be inspired by these two decades of funding, but the program itself is focused on the future of research, especially field work. We hope that the conversations may provide innovative new ideas for the Society's future funding priorities.

The Society's Meetings, a tradition that dates back to the Society's founding, continue to be one of the chief means through which the APS serves its mission of "promoting useful knowledge." Attendance at both the November 2024 Meeting and April 2025 Meeting surpassed 300 attendees, reaching our pre-pandemic numbers, and we inducted more than 25 Members at each (page 20). Looking ahead

to November 2025, we plan to accomplish one of the long-term goals identified during our strategic planning process: reaching beyond Philadelphia. The Society remains committed to hosting important events far from Philosophical Hall. Thanks to the generosity of Sara Miller McCune (APS 2018) and Sage Publishing, the Society can take its first big step by holding our November 2025 Meeting in La Jolla. Looking even further ahead, the APS has also forged a partnership with the Royal Society. The oldest learned society in the world and the oldest in the United States will hold a two-day symposium in London in 2026. While the meeting will be inspired by the events of 1776, the program itself will be focused on the future, just as those in 1776 were. This ambitious project is made possible thanks to the generosity of Martine Rothblatt (APS 2008).

That point brings me back to one essential truth about the APS, one that has defined the institution since its inception and will continue to do so. Members are the heart of the Society (page 22). In the past year, many of our Members have been directly affected by changes in funding and even more are deeply concerned about changes in policies that threaten the scholarly enterprise. Many have reached out to the Society to ask what the APS plans to do in this moment. The Society's role as a champion for scholarship, and its remarkable Members, who stand as exemplars for the importance of research, are more important than ever. With our history as a guide and driven as always by the expertise of its Members, the Society will continue to support the pursuit of knowledge and to advocate for the need for others to do so. It will also evolve to meet the needs of this moment, and we look to Members for guidance on where the Society can make the greatest contributions.

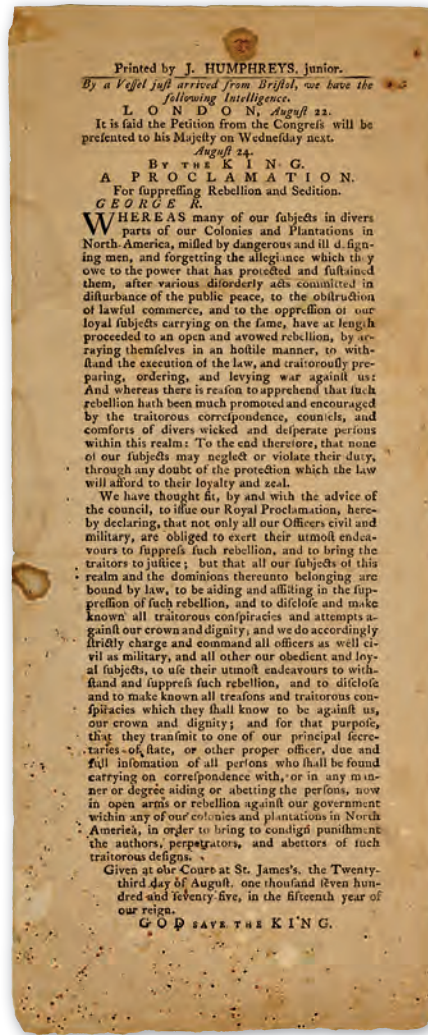
Personally, when I think about this moment, my thoughts turn to Philosophical Hall. It is no mistake that this building was placed right next to the halls of power. The founders of the republic knew that the advancement of knowledge was essential to the success of the American experiment, and they believed that the APS was a pillar meant to support the republic. It is also a reminder that the building from which I am writing may be old, but the work it has done and will do matters, perhaps more so than ever.

FROM THE Librarian

The APS Library & Museum is gearing up for next year's semiquincentennial of the Declaration of Independence with a strong focus on outreach and engagement on all fronts.

THE CORNERSTONE OF the Society's 250th activities is *The Revolutionary City: A Portal to the Nation's Founding*, or *Rev City* for short, which launched on July 1, 2025. The portal includes materials from the American Philosophical Society as well as the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Library Company of Philadelphia, the Museum of the American Revolution, and the Kislak Center for Special Collections at the University of Pennsylvania. The result offers students, teachers, scholars, and the public the chance to explore how the Revolutionary era shaped Philadelphians from all walks of life from 1763 to 1804. To date, there are 6,000 documents totaling over 50,000 pages, and the portal will continue to grow over the next year. To ensure that the project is as accessible as it can be, and with recognition that the ability to read 18th-century cursive writing is a waning skill, developers have experimented with artificial intelligence to automate document transcription. Newly trained models have an accuracy rate of between 93 and 96 percent, and all training data is available for public use.

Philadelphia, The Revolutionary City, this year's Museum exhibition and the inaugural show by APS Exhibitions Curator Caroline O'Connell, draws on themes and documents from the *Rev City* portal, and has proved popular. Nearly 70,000 people have visited the show since it opened for the season in April. It is a tour de force that unites material from nearly a dozen local archives and museums, including our five *Rev City* portal partners. The exhibition tells "stories of long forgotten lives—and with no shortage of hometown pride," as noted by a review in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and offers "an intimate glimpse into what was then the largest city in the new



By the King: A Proclamation for Suppressing Rebellion and Sedition, published by James Humphreys, 1775. Letterpress ink on paper. APS.

nation." The show has garnered significant media coverage. In addition to the *Inquirer*, reviews have appeared in *Hidden City: Exploring Philadelphia's Urban Landscape* and *The Broad Street Review*, as well as television features on WHYY and 6ABC Action News. Planning for the 2026 exhibition is also well under way with David Gary, Associate Director of Collections, as

the curator. *These Truths: The Declarations of Independence* will focus on one of the United States' most recognizable documents. An introductory section explores a range of materials that shaped framers' ideas about declaring independence, and a recent acquisition will have pride of place. In June 2025, the APS purchased the broadside "By The King: A Proclamation for Suppressing Rebellion and Sedition," published by James Humphreys, Jr., a Loyalist printer in Philadelphia, in the fall of 1775. This is, in short, the first official notice Philadelphians received that the King had declared war. While Boston and New York versions of this broadside are held by other archives, this will be the first public display of a Philadelphia edition—indeed, it is the only known copy and was previously in private hands. Better still, the APS already owns Congress's response to the King's proclamation printed by John Dunlap on December 6, 1775. Together these two documents make a remarkable pairing to ground next year's show.

Additional exhibition sections will focus on what the Declaration meant to Philadelphians during that pivotal summer of 1776, as well as why the document repeatedly served as a national symbol throughout the 19th century. Objects and documents that tell these stories include a handwritten draft by Thomas Jefferson and the chair he sat in while doing so, a first printing by John Dunlap from July 4, 1776, and the version of the Declaration most familiar to Americans today, which was engraved by William J. Stone in 1823. Stone's copy was commissioned by then Secretary of State John Quincy Adams during a period of renewed nationalism following the War of 1812. The events of 1776 were by then more than three decades old, and both the Declaration's signers and Revolutionary



In October 2024, Maureen Matthews presents at “Following Knowledge Forward: A Gathering to Mark a Decade of Indigenous Knowledge and Collaboration at CNAIR.” Photo by Brian Carpenter.



Conference attendees view APS materials in the Library Hall reading room during “Following Knowledge Forward.” Photo by Brian Carpenter.

war veterans were aging; many had died. Americans had begun to revere the parchment document that signaled the birth of the United States, but the original was fragile. Stone spent three years meticulously engraving his copy, including the signatures, to ensure a faithful reproduction. *These Truths* is an opportunity to highlight these and other rarely displayed versions of the Declaration, all drawn from the Society’s vault, which will be on display for the first time in the same gallery.

In addition to museum outreach, the Library & Museum has prioritized public programming this year, offering more than 130 events that brought in nearly 7,000 participants. These ranged from school groups and teacher training workshops to family fun days and scholarly lectures and seminars. The APS also held two successful conferences in July and October of 2024. The first was “The Origins of Revolution: 250th Anniversary of the Fairfax Resolves,” coordinated between APS’s David Center for the American Revolution (DCAR), George Mason’s Gunston Hall, and the George Washington Presidential Library

at Mount Vernon. The second conference, “Following Knowledge Forward” marked the 10th anniversary of APS’s Center for Native American and Indigenous Research, and offered an opportunity for people to gather together and share their experiences, insights, and visions for future collaborative, community-engaged work in language and cultural revitalization. These events brought in 224 and 280 registrants respectively.

Moreover, DCAR held another event in April 2025 entitled “1775: A Society on the Brink of War and Revolution,” this time with the Massachusetts Historical Society and the Concord Museum, to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord. The event sold out in person and had more than 400 virtual attendees, thanks to coverage from both C-SPAN and WGBH, a Boston public television station. Papers from all three of these events are currently under review by the APS Press for a series of special issues of *Transactions*, which relaunched last year as a quarterly journal.

Finally, the Center for the History of Science has hit the ground running. Staff recently completed a thorough survey of existing archival material related to the history of science, providing a much better sense of current collecting strengths as well as suggesting guidance for where the APS might like to grow. They have also been hard at work on the “America’s Scientific Revolutionaries” project, announced in last year’s APS News and funded by the Lounsbury Foundation. Six short-form videos profiling different lesser-known scientists (at least lesser known to non-APS Members!) were finished in summer 2025, and a companion lecture and podcast series will begin this fall.

As I said at the outset of this article, the APS Library & Museum has been busy, and the events of this year and next are crucial to our contributions to rethinking and contextualizing the history of early America generally and the Declaration of Independence specifically. I am very much looking forward to what the rest of this year will bring, and welcome the chance to speak to any of you about these initiatives or other ideas you might have for the Library and Museum. Please feel free to email me at librarian@amphilsoc.org.

Michelle Craig McDonald

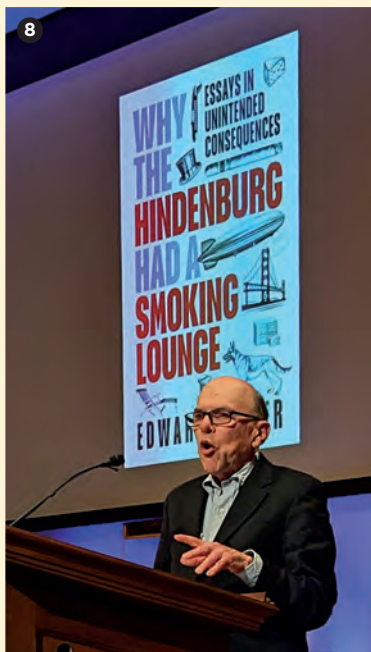
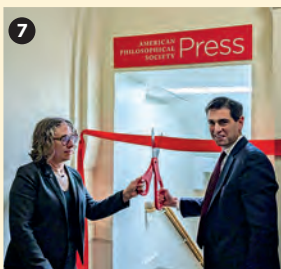
Director of the Library & Museum

Seen at the Society



APS MEMBERS, FRIENDS, FELLOWS, STAFF, AND GUESTS ENJOYED A YEAR OF EVENTS WITH BREADTH AND DEPTH IN 2025. Public lectures brought authors like Zara Anishanslin, Evan Friss, and Mary Beth Norton (APS 2010) to Franklin Hall. Events inspired by the museum exhibition included quizzo, Family Fun Day, and a transcribe-a-thon. The APS Press began hosting publishing salons that brought industry professionals and the public together to discuss bookish subjects, while Indigenous Learning Forums, David Center for the American Revolution seminars, brown bag talks, conferences, and more filled the calendar.

Thank you for being part of the APS community. We hope to see you soon! Visit amphilsoc.org/events to see what's coming next.



Page 4:

1. Eddie Glaude speaks about his book, *We are the Leaders We Have Been Looking For*, at the April APS Meeting. Photo by Kelly & Massa.
2. APS Curator of the History of Science Adrianna Link and Ben Vinson III enjoy the April APS Meeting. Photo by Kelly & Massa.
3. Robert M. Hauser, Michelle Craig McDonald, and Patrick Spero gather at the reception for McDonald's book *Coffee Nation* in June. Photo by Elizabeth DeVore.
4. Jeffrey Rosen (APS 2025) speaks on the APS and the pursuit of happiness at the April APS Meeting. Photo by Kelly & Massa.

Page 5:

1. Patrick Spero (APS CEO), Bryan Stevenson (APS 2024), and Roger Bagnall (APS President) pose for a photo following Stevenson's formal induction into the Society in April. Photo by Kelly & Massa.
2. Semir Zeki (APS 1998) and Jianguo "Jack" Liu (APS 2015) at the April APS Meeting. Photo by Kelly & Massa.
3. Visitors from the Consular Corps Association of Philadelphia view items from APS collections while touring the Library reading room in June. Photo by Elizabeth DeVore. L-R: Michelle Craig McDonald, John Medveckis (Latvian Consulate), Alvar Soosaar (Designate for Honorary Consul of Estonia), Krista Bard (Lithuanian Consulate), Wilfred Muskens (Honorary Consul of The Netherlands), Daisy Van den Hoof-Mertens (Flemish Consulate), Christine Pfister (Swiss Consulate), Peter Longstreth (Uruguayan Consulate).
4. Patrick Spero gathers with Jeanne Bertoia and Tim Ilyinsky at the Wistar party in Malvern, PA in May. Photo by Elizabeth DeVore.
5. Raman Ramakrishnan (cellist) and Benjamin Hochman (pianist) perform at the April APS Meeting. Photo by Kelly & Massa.
6. Lewis and Clark Fund Field Scholar Emily Sperou speaks about her research on individual specialization in a generalist apex predator: the leopard seal, at the April APS Meeting. Photo by Kelly & Massa.
7. Kimberly Guinta (Director of the APS Press) and Patrick Spero cut the ribbon for the new APS Press office in Richardson Hall in February. Photo by Jessica Frankenfield.
8. Author Edward Tenner launches his book, *Why the Hindenburg Had a Smoking Lounge: Essays in Unintended Consequences*, in April. The book was published by the APS Press. Photo by Jessica Frankenfield.
9. Michelle Craig McDonald celebrates the publication of her book *Coffee Nation* at a Friends of the APS Lecture in June. Photo by Elizabeth DeVore.



A STEADFAST COMMITMENT TO SCHOLARLY RESEARCH

⋮ Research support
⋮ has long been part
⋮ of the APS mission
⋮ of promoting useful
⋮ knowledge.



Azteca ant colonies attack and immobilize *Eciton hamatum* army ants, which specialize in raiding the larvae of other social insects. Some colonies respond stronger than others in field experiments. The pictured colony is more aggressive than most. Photos by Peter Marting.

***Azteca* Ants and Their *Cecropia* Tree Hosts**

While at Arizona State University in 2015, Peter Marting received a \$3,800 Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research grant. Assisted by these funds, Marting studied the symbiotic relationship between the *Azteca* ant and the *Cecropia* tree. This was part of a three-phase study in Gamboa, Panama, to try to understand the reason(s) behind the collective behavior, or personality, of the ants; the effects of the ants on the plant; and the resulting influence of the plant on ant behavior. Marting's three-pronged plan was to assess personality in natural colonies of ants in the field, to transplant colonies to trees in greenhouses, and to reassess personality after the greenhouse transfer using the same bioassay methods used in the first phase.

The trees produce specialized food bodies that the ants harvest as food. The ants live within the trunk and, in exchange for the food, defend the plant. *Azteca* ants are known to be fierce defenders of their home plant, and Marting was interested in the effects of their aggressiveness on the plant and, in turn, possible alterations in the ant colony's personality caused by the resulting change in the allocation of the *Cecropia*'s resources between defense and growth. Marting's work has been published in major scientific journals, including *Nature*.

Over the course of 20 years, the Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research has awarded over 1,000 grants to researchers working on projects related to animal behavior, anthropology, archaeology, biology, botany, ecology, environmental sciences, evolution, geography, geology, paleontology, and beyond.

The APS formally began to offer research support on a permanent basis in 1933. Since then, more than 15,000 scholars have benefited from APS support through a number of programs open to a broad range of researchers.

WHILE THE SOCIETY sometimes contributed to exploratory excursions, including through the conveying of knowledge—several Members trained Lewis and Clark in various disciplines before they headed west—the APS formally began to offer research support on a permanent basis in 1933. Since then, more than 15,000 scholars have benefited from APS support through a number of programs open to a broad range of researchers.

In 1933 the APS launched a competition for small amounts of funding that is known today as the Franklin Research Grant program. In its first year, the Society awarded a total of \$1,160 to four individuals, an average of \$290 per person, and the Society's very first official grant was made to measure ice cap depth at the South Pole during the Byrd Antarctic Expedition II. In 2025, 114 researchers received nearly \$675,000, the average award coming in at a hair under \$6,000. Funds are used for research-related travel and subsistence costs as well as to cover consumable supplies in scientific projects.

The Franklin program supports research in all fields of knowledge and all disciplines. The Society collaborates with other prestigious institutions as well to expand its offerings. Each year one Franklin applicant is chosen to receive the APS/British Academy Fellowship, which supports up to two months' work in London and environs. The Society also annually names one Franklin recipient that year's joint

APS/Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities in Edinburgh Fellow. A new collaboration, with the American Trust for the British Library, awards a \$2,500 top-off award to a Franklin recipient planning to use the collections of the British Library.

Elise Franklin, a 2024 recipient of a Franklin Research Grant (the name gave her no special treatment and is merely a coincidence) and assistant professor at the University of Louisville, embarked on two trips to France to investigate the Perrou affair in the middle of the Algerian Revolution (1954–1962). French settler Armand Perrou brought 25 Algerian children to France and gave them to waiting host families. Franklin's project, titled "Abduction in the Archives," not

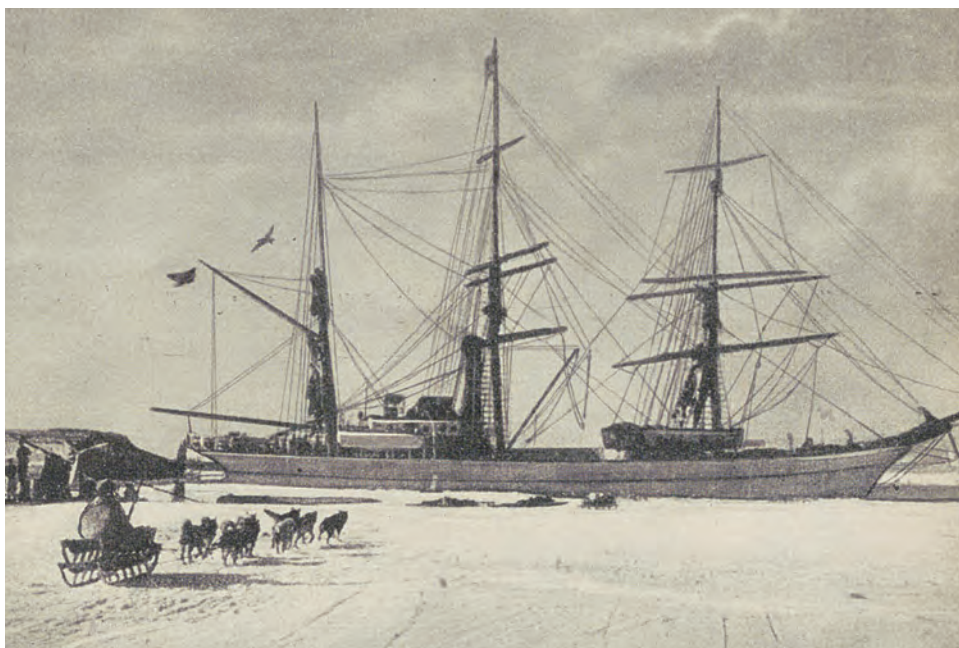
only uncovered historically important information, but what she discovered impacted a participant—albeit an unwilling one—in the Perrou affair. As reported by Franklin: "Abduction in the Archives" recounts the history of the so-called Perrou affair. In December 1958, during the Algerian War for independence (1954–1962), the relatively anonymous French settler Armand Perrou illegally placed 25 Algerian children up for "adoption" in France. My book investigates this affair as an incomplete and scarcely known site from which to question archival practice and historical storytelling. With the support of a Franklin APS grant, I pieced together the life histories of several of the 25 stolen children, Perrou, and the machinations of the French imperial nation-state that facilitated their abductions. I also conducted an oral history with one of the children—now an adult—who had been seeking answers about their abduction for several decades and whose testimony challenged some of my archival findings. This research has allowed me to insist that historians turn inward to understand the motivations underlying archival research, including the belief that telling the story suffices to expunge the past.

The Phillips Fund for Native American Research is the second-oldest grant program and supports work in Native



Above: From the Service Historique de la Défense (SHD) GP 28 P 4 207, Identity photo from the personnel file of Armand Perrou. Photo credit: Elise Franklin.

Right: The Society's first official grant was made to measure ice cap depth at the South Pole during the Byrd Antarctic Expedition II. This pamphlet from APS Library collections about Byrd's Antarctic explorations highlights the ice barrier.





Local people from the Aymara community of Jachacachi participating in the archaeological project. Photo credit: Luis Flores-Blanco, CC-BY 4.0.

American ethnohistory and linguistics. Unlike the Franklin program, which is geared toward postdoctoral researchers and to which any researcher with the terminal degree in their field is eligible to apply, the Phillips Fund program is open to master's students through emeritus scholars. The products of the grants are often added to the APS Library's extensive holdings in Indigenous history and linguistics. In the most recent competition, the Phillips Fund program saw 28 researchers awarded a total of \$80,100.

Melanie Cootsona, a doctoral candidate at the University of California, Berkeley, used her award to undertake "The Eagle Keepers: Bird Ethnohistories and Picuris Pueblo, New Mexico." According to

Cootsona: "The Eagle Keepers" project centers on Picuris Pueblo oral histories of bird-human relationships in the Northern Rio Grande region of New Mexico. Picuris Pueblo, the smallest pueblo with 300 members, sits on the edge of the Puebloan world, and has been described by modern Picuris as having been the "Walmart" of local Indigenous peoples in the deeper past: a place where people gathered and traded across long distances. Bird bone tools and feathers are a key part of that trading tradition, which continues today. The Phillips Fund from the American Philosophical Society provided the support to facilitate and record interviews with eight members of the Pueblo, detailing current attitudes and past traditions surrounding

bird hunting, husbandry, domestication, trade, and spirituality. Recording and soliciting stories from knowledgeable members of the community has been an ongoing objective of the community, and writing these stories down preserves them for further generations of Picuris people.

In 2005 APS President Baruch Blumberg wondered why the APS could not offer a small grants program in support of exploratory field studies for the collection of specimens and data and to provide the imaginative stimulus that accompanies direct observation. The program, whose recipients are known as Lewis and Clark Fund Field Scholars, has awarded 1,024 grants since its inception. In 2025, 84 Field Scholars shared \$428,200.

Luis Flores-Blanco, now a postdoctoral research scholar at Arizona State University and in 2021 a doctoral candidate at the University of California, Davis, received funding to work on a project titled “The Roots of Social Complexity in the Lake Titicaca Basin in Peru Four Thousand Years Ago.” Flores-Blanco and his colleagues recently published an open-access article “Farming without Famine: Ancient Andean Innovation Rewrites Agricultural Origins,” a groundbreaking study. As Flores-Blanco notes: Our study demonstrates that the origin of agriculture in the Titicaca Basin, in the Peruvian Andes, was not a response to scarcity or crisis, as seen in other Neolithization processes elsewhere, but rather a strategy for

economic resilience. Through a multidisciplinary approach—including chemical, zooarchaeological, botanical analyses, and statistical analyses—we show that Lake Titicaca communities between 5,500 and 3,000 years ago relied on a diet grounded in traditional ecological knowledge from their hunter-gatherer past, while also incorporating some domesticated foodstuffs. This reframes Andean agricultural history as a long-term adaptive choice rather than a response to hardship.

In 20 years of existence, the Lewis and Clark Fund has sent researchers to every continent on earth. Disciplines include animal behavior, anthropology, archaeology, biology, botany, ecology, environmental sciences, evolution, geography, geology, and paleontology, among others. Field scholars have worked on land, sea, underground, and on the tops of mountains. The map on page 13 shows the wide disciplinary and geographical breakdown for 2022 through 2024.

To celebrate the grand success of the Lewis and Clark Fund program, the Society is hosting a two-day conference October 23–24, 2025. Past grantees, reviewers, committee members, referees, APS Members, and many others will gather to discuss “The Future of Field Work: The

Promise and Perils of Research in the Twenty-First Century.” Panels on Models for Communities, Models for the Future, Models for Collection and Preservation, Models for Inclusivity, Models for Innovation, and Models for Sustainability will feature a wide range of doctoral students and junior and senior scholars, and the keynote speaker, Scott Edwards (APS 2020), will speak on “A Bird in the Hand: The Highs and Lows of Collections-Based Ornithological Field Work.”

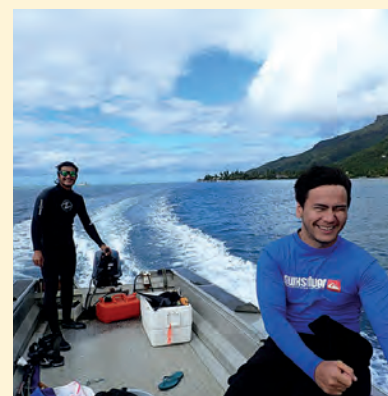
Another major milestone is also on the horizon. The Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research in Astrobiology will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2026. Lewis and Clark Field Scholars in Astrobiology study the origin, evolution, distribution, and future of life on Earth and in the universe. They perform research in, among others, the fields of astronomy, chemistry, evolutionary biology, field and population biology, geology, microbiology, molecular biology, oceanography, paleontology, and planetary science. They also investigate the geologic and fossil record to understand the conditions of the early Earth when life arose. A primary focus is on research of contemporary locations on Earth that might be similar to early earth and



The use of drones and photogrammetry was essential to work in the field, which allowed us a more precise record tied to our elevations established with differential GPS. Photo by Christian Cancho Ruiz (San Jacinto Archaeological Project 2023).



Tobin Hammer received a Lewis and Clark Fund grant in 2015 to explore the abundance, identities, and sources of microbial life in caterpillar intestines in northwestern Costa Rica. Photo courtesy of Tobin Hammer.



2014 Lewis and Clark Fund Field Scholar Eric Tong and assistant Ryan conduct fieldwork in Mo'orea. Tong studied multispecies connectivity of coral reefs in the Society Islands, French Polynesia. Photo by I. Fernandez Silva.



Pablo Arán Sekul sampling soils at 4800 meters above sea level at Llullaillaco Volcano.
Photo credit: Sergio Mujica.

to environments elsewhere in our Solar System (such as on Mars, Europa, and Titan), which may be, or have been in the past, suitable for life. A major goal is understanding the characteristics of life, which requires investigations into extreme natural environments on Earth and, eventually, elsewhere.

Supported by the NASA Astrobiology Program, the Lewis and Clark Fund in Astrobiology is open to doctoral students and junior scholars. On average, \$35,000 is awarded each year to between seven and nine researchers. Over the life of the program, 159 applicants have been awarded \$673,666.

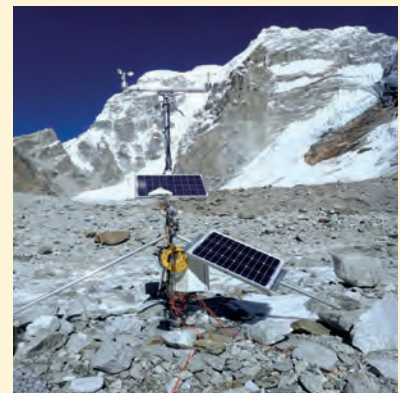
Pablo Aran, a 2023 Lewis and Clark Fund in Astrobiology Field Scholar and doctoral student at the University of Arizona, spent his funded time “Investigating Microbial Habitability of a High-Altitude Volcano in the Atacama Desert as a Mars Analog.” In his words: Our study contributes to understanding how life adapts to extreme water scarcity, which is expected to worsen with climate change and is key to understanding habitability of environments both on Earth and beyond. Hyperarid systems act as natural laboratories for studying ecological resilience, where microbes maintain



Jeremy Van Driessche, 2022 Lewis and Clark Fund grant recipient, studying the influence of tusklessness on the foraging behavior of female African elephants in Mozambique. Photo by Bart Wursten.

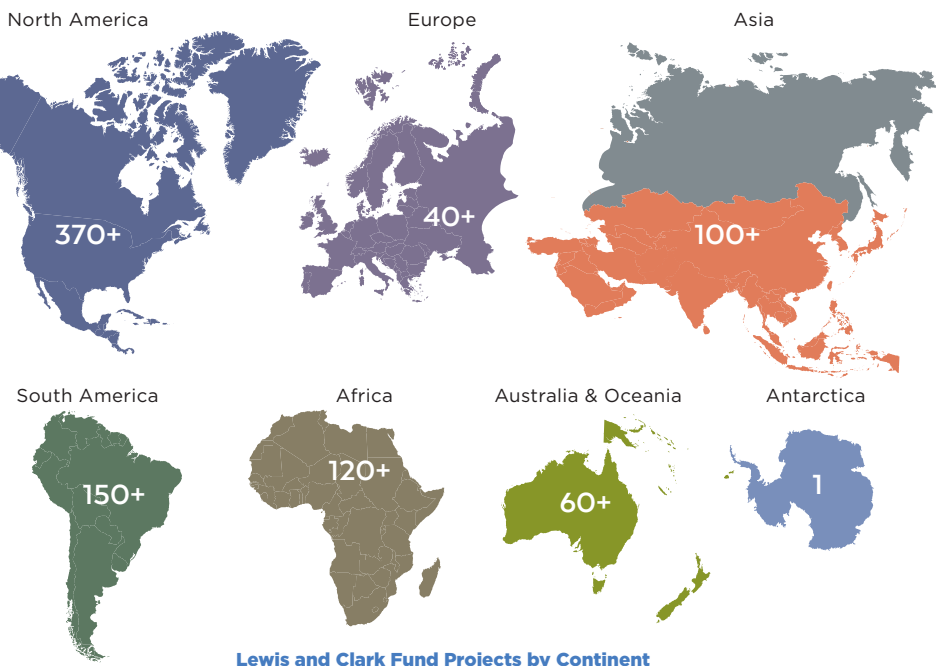


A stranded killer whale discovered during Eric Keen’s 2015 Lewis and Clark grant-funded study of large inland whales at Kitimat Fjord System, British Columbia, Canada. Photo by Eric Keen, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San Diego.



A weather station in Nepal used by 2015 Lewis and Clark grant recipient Alexandra Giese, whose goal was to develop a one-dimensional surface energy balance model for debris-covered glaciers. Photo courtesy of Alexandra Giese.





ecosystem functions despite low availability of nutrients and water, and high stress from ultraviolet radiation and extreme temperatures. Fieldwork supported by the American Philosophical Society provided an opportunity to measure microbial biodiversity and function along an elevation gradient on Llullaillaco Volcano in Chile, providing insight into the boundaries of life.

In a nice twist, one of Aran’s collaborators, Pablo Aguilar, received a Franklin Research Grant in 2010, and Aran’s advisor, A. Elizabeth Arnold, has served as a reviewer for the Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research.

In addition to the grant programs, the APS annually offers two fellowships that support early career scholars. The Daland Fellowships in Clinical Investigation have

Left Page: 2024 Lewis and Clark Fund Field Scholar Haley Robb holds a biopsied blubber sample collected from a humpback whale in Maui, Hawaii, as part of her doctoral research investigating reproductive and stress hormones in humpback whales within the North Pacific. Research conducted under NMFS permit #25987. **Above:** Chart design by Robert E. Schultz **Below:** Team after sampling at 500 meters above sea level at the foot of the Llullaillaco Volcano, Chile. From left to right: Sebastian Matsufuji-Beltrán, Sergio Mujica, Pablo Aran Sekul (grantee), and Jonathan García. Photo: Sebastian Matsufuji-Beltrán.



existed nearly as long as the Franklin Grant program. One or two investigators involved in patient-oriented research are selected for a \$40,000 award that is renewable for a second year. Fellows most often come from the fields of neurology, molecular biology, pediatrics, internal medicine, and surgery.

The John Hope Franklin Fellowship is a dissertation-completion award of \$28,000. Recipient benefits also include funding for a professional development activity each year, as well as a tuition waiver. The program is open to dissertators in any field of knowledge, and the fellowship is specifically designed to assist a student from a group underrepresented in academia.

Finally, when appropriate, the APS offers grant and/or fellowship opportunities that opportunistically take advantage of proposed funding. An excellent example of such a program is the currently offered Blumberg Grants in Astrobiology, which covers expenses not fundable under the Lewis and Clark Fund in Astrobiology, including attendance at conferences, collaboration with colleagues, and travel to China. Award amounts are dependent upon need but do not exceed \$10,000. Eight applicants received funding in 2025. Once grantees become alumni, the APS works to stay in touch and keep scholars engaged. An online alumni forum, opportunities to publish their work and give talks on new and forthcoming books, social gatherings, and meet-ups at events of common interest are only some of the Society’s activities for alumni. Past grantees are encouraged to become reviewers and repeat awardees. In fact, it is particularly satisfying to see Lewis and Clark Field Scholars move on and successfully apply for a Franklin grant.

The APS Research Department is never static; it is always growing and evolving. Any and all types of participation are welcome, and we hope you will join us as we support useful knowledge far into the future.

Linda Musumeci
Director of Grants and Fellowships



The Future of Field Work

PHILADELPHIA

THE

Revolutionary

CITY



An East Perspective View of the City of Philadelphia, in the Province of Pennsylvania, in North America; taken from the Jersey Shore (detail), printed for and sold by Carington Bowles, January 1, 1778. Hand-colored engraving on paper. APS.



ON THE EVE OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR, PHILADELPHIA WAS THE LARGEST CITY IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.



WAVES OF IMMIGRATION AND ECONOMIC development fueled its growing population of about 30,000. Its prime location along the Delaware River made it a critical port. The city was bustling, with different languages, cultures, and communities. As resentment towards Great Britain grew throughout the colonies, Philadelphia became the headquarters of the Continental Congress and seat of power during the war. Amidst the upheaval, the city remained a place of contrasts and its populace reflected the complexities and disagreements within this emerging nation. *Philadelphia, The Revolutionary City* invites visitors to explore this turbulent period by offering windows into the daily lives of those living in and around Philadelphia from the 1760s through the 1780s, and demonstrates that revolutionary change is rarely straightforward.

The exhibition draws inspiration from *The Revolutionary City: A Portal to the Nation's Founding*, a growing digital archive of documents relating to Revolution-era Philadelphia. This online portal makes accessible digitized manuscript and printed materials from the collections of the American Philosophical Society, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Library Company of Philadelphia, and a growing network of institutional partners.

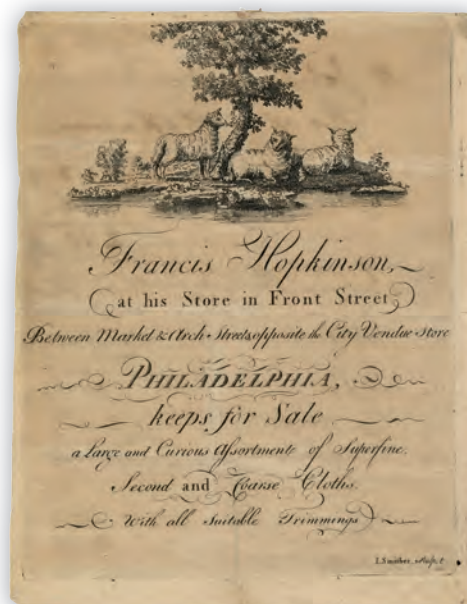
The exhibition is enriched by key loans from: the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Independence National Historical Park; the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts at the University of Pennsylvania; the Library Company of Philadelphia; the Museum of the American Revolution; Reading Public Museum; Swan Foundation, Inc.; the Naomi Wood Trust, Woodford Mansion; Winterthur Museum Garden and Library; and Wyck Historic House, Garden, and Farm.

I: GROWING CITY, MOUNTING UNREST

AS VISITORS ENTER THE EXHIBITION, they are welcomed into the busy metropolis of 1760s Philadelphia. It was a key port and hub for North America and an epicenter for craft and learning, with a robust merchant and trader class at the top of society, and an influential middling group of skilled professionals, including printers and artisans. A range of objects convey the city's sophistication, including three trade cards—visually engaging prints that functioned as advertisements, keepsakes, and receipts of sale for high-end goods. They promote the wares of a cabinetmaker, a cloth merchant, and a manufacturer of fishing gear. Nearby, we display the back page of a mouse-chewed newspaper, one of many printed and published in the city. Within its three columns are a range

of advertisements that underscore the commerce-driven nature of Philadelphia, a city where goods, services, and people were treated as commodities.

A series of escalating taxes and restrictions imposed by the British Parliament rippled through the city's diverse populace. We highlight the impact of the short-lived Stamp Act through a range of artifacts, including a leather box that is believed to have held stamped, taxed paper; a pamphlet of instructions belonging to John Hughes, the appointed distributor of Stamps in Pennsylvania; an extraordinary 1765 non-importation agreement that boycotted British goods in protest to the Act, was signed by hundreds of Philadelphians across economic strata, and includes at least six women; and a Philadelphia-published version of Benjamin Wilson's famously biting political cartoon about the Act's repeal. Even as frustration in the city and throughout the colonies led to political organizing, violence, and ultimately the start of war, opinions about the conflict were not one-sided, and loyalties were not easily secured.



Left: George Washington, Esqr., *Founder and Protector of America's Liberty and Independency*, likely printed by John Hewson, Sr., ca. 1776. Printing ink on cotton and linen. Winterthur Museum—Museum purchase.

Right: Trade Card for Francis Hopkinson, *Fabric Merchant And Purveyor*, engraved by James Smither, Sr., ca. 1769. Engraving on paper. The Library Company of Philadelphia.

II: PHILADELPHIANS AND THEIR NEIGHBORS

THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AFFECTED nearly all aspects of Philadelphians' daily lives, but its impacts were felt differently across various communities. The city was diverse, as well as socially and economically divided. Within the section, objects were selected to convey this pluralism and suggest the range of opinions towards, and associations about, the war as it unfolded. Philadelphia was home to enslaved people and servants of various races. It included a growing free Black population and many immigrant communities. Two indenture documents from 1781 (the year after Pennsylvania passed *An Act for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery*) reveal vastly different experiences: John Francis indentures himself for the amount of 45 pounds to pay for the freedom of his enslaved wife, Jane; in another document six-month-old Violet Springhouse is indentured through Philadelphia's "Overseers of the Poor" for the next 27 and a half years. Although most citizens spoke English, there were sizable French- and German-speaking neighborhoods nearby. Colorful *fraktur*—distinctively ornamented Pennsylvania German (often referred to as "Pennsylvania Dutch") manuscripts—serve as lively reminders of the many languages and cultures flourishing in the region.

Indigenous nations of many regions faced great pressure to leave their homelands, and regularly sent delegations into Philadelphia for discussions around land, trade, and their relationships to the unfolding conflict. And, although the city had long been considered a religious haven, the war frayed Congress's tolerance and also the fabric of some religious communities. We emphasize the tribulations of the Quakers through a series of objects: an evocative letter by the young Quaker Elizabeth Coleman to her beloved Nathan Sellers, written while they courted in secret because Sellers had broken the Quakers' pacifist stance by enlisting in the Pennsylvania militia; and, two diaries written by prominent Quaker documentarians Elizabeth Sandwith Drinker and Sarah Logan Fisher, whose husbands were forcibly exiled to Virginia by the Continental Congress for their refusal to pledge loyalty to and take up arms for the new nation.



Self-Portrait, painted by Charles Willson Peale, 1777-1778. Oil on canvas. APS.

III: BEARING ARMS

PHILADELPHIA'S STATUS AS SEAT OF the governing Continental Congress contributed to its strategic and symbolic wartime presence. A series of objects relating to Philadelphia militiaman and artist Charles Willson Peale serve as reminders of the ebb and flow of the war. A densely written page from his diary in July 1776 covers everything from grocery lists to observations on current events, including the Continental Congress's declaration of independence from Great Britain. Meanwhile, a carefully drawn cannon and a painted self-portrait remind visitors of Peale's pride in being both an artist and a soldier in the fight for independence.

The Continental Army, led by George Washington, moved quickly to organize its largely untrained forces, seeking and often coercing participation from young

men across the colonies. Other objects evoke the lives of these soldiers, from army enlistment receipts, to a powder horn, rum keg, and musket.

Several key battles were fought near Philadelphia, and British forces occupied the city from 1777-1778, resulting in damage to infrastructure, harsh conditions, and resource scarcity. Many Philadelphians fled to territory controlled by the Continental Army, while others left for England or joined the British. As some residents struggled under occupation conditions, others found relief and even enjoyment. A triumphant New-Year's Verses accompanying *The Pennsylvania Ledger* newspaper on January 1, 1778 reads "Truth is, I always lov'd my King and Church, / And could not bear to leave them in the lurch, / To see Rebellion wear the thin Pretence / Of Freedom, Virtue, Truth, and *Common Sense*..."

AS THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS MOVED BACK TO THE CITY, MANY CITIZENS ALSO RETURNED, AND THOSE WHO HAD ENDURED BRITISH MILITARY RULE HAD TO ADJUST ONCE MORE. IN THIS CHARGED ENVIRONMENT, LONG-SIMMERING TENSIONS OVER LOYALTIES BEGAN TO BOIL OVER.

IV: THE REVOLUTIONARY CITY

WITH THE ABRUPT END OF THE BRITISH occupation of Philadelphia in June 1778, the war pivoted southward. As the Continental Congress moved back to the city, many citizens also returned, and those who had endured British military rule had to adjust once more. In this charged environment, long-simmering tensions over loyalties began to boil over. Two highly personal letters and a small, signed document underscore the stakes. In a letter written at Valley Forge by recently retired officer John Armstrong to his dear friend Benjamin Chew, then in exile for his loyalist sympathies, Armstrong beseeches Chew to take Pennsylvania's oath of allegiance. Writing that same spring of 1778, Edward Shippen writes to let his son Joseph know that he has decided to take the oath, and recommends that Joseph do the same. A diminutive form certifies that Joseph took his father's advice just weeks later.

As support for the Revolutionary cause swelled, so did anger and violence, worsened by soaring prices, inflation, and frustration at the uneven economic toll of the war. A locally made punch bowl and document setting prices for various commodities, including many of the ingredients for punch, serve as reminders of the practical implications of the conflict on Philadelphians' lives. Despite this turmoil, the city continued to shift and expand. A letter announcing the commemoration of the first synagogue for Philadelphia's Jewish congregation, Mikveh Israel, high-

lights the city's continuing evolution even amidst the war years. Nearby, a pocket almanac, one of the most popular printed items from the period, is shown to have been visibly retrofitted for its Jewish owner, with the Hebrew year pasted in and annotations made along the pages.

V: PHILADELPHIA AFTER THE WAR

BY THE TIME THE TREATY OF PARIS WAS signed in 1783 to end the Revolutionary War, Philadelphia was beginning to look and feel far different from the colonial city it had been before the conflict. This concluding section features just a few objects that gesture towards changes in the post-war city. A favorite is a hand-colored map of the city, made while Philadelphia was the capital of the new nation, which showcases urban and civic development. But as new opportunities greeted some Philadelphians, social and economic challenges confronted others. Revolutionary changes were evident throughout post-war Philadelphia, producing a mix of aspirations, inequities, and pluralism that still resonates in American society.

Caroline O'Connell
APS Exhibitions Curator

Lu'ah. Shel Shenat 541 [1780-1781] Including the *Parallel Christian Calendar*, 1780. Letterpress printing ink with black and red ink in bound volume. Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania Libraries.



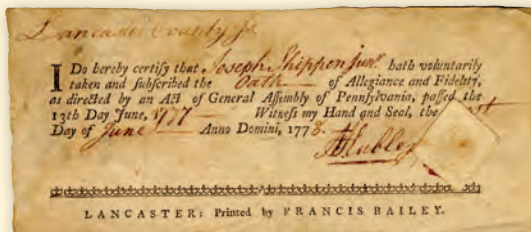
Wedding Shoes for Hannah Marshall Haines, 1785. Silk and leather with steel and paste buckle. Wyck Historic House, Garden, and Farm. • **Tall Case Clock**, made by Edward Duffield, ca. 1750. Walnut, mahogany, oak, brass, glass, and silver. APS—Gift of Junius Spencer Morgan and Henry Sturges Morgan, 1954.





Exhibition opening photo by Jessica Frankenfield.

William Reynolds's Powder Horn, 1778.
 Cow horn, wood, iron. Museum of the American Revolution—Gift of the McNeil Americana Collection.



Oath of Allegiance Signed by Joseph Shippen, printed by Francis Bailey, witnessed by Adam Hubley, June 1, 1778. Printing and manuscript inks with embossed seal on paper. APS—Gift of The Philip and A.S.W. Rosenbach Foundation, 1952.

Punch Bowl, likely commissioned for Thomas Roberts, 1771. Red earthenware. Courtesy of Independence National Historical Park Collection, Philadelphia.



2025

MEMBERS ELECTED

Class 1: Mathematical and Physical Sciences

Barry Barish, Linde Professor of Physics, Emeritus, California Institute of Technology; Professor, University of California, Riverside; President's Distinguished Endowed Chair in Physics, Stony Brook University

Persis Drell, Provost Emerita, James and Anna Marie Spilker Professor, Stanford University Professor of Materials, Science and Engineering, Professor of Physics, Stanford University

Susan T. Dumais, Technical Fellow, Managing Director, Microsoft Research New England, New York City, and Montreal, Microsoft

Michael Harris, Professor of Mathematics, Columbia University; Professor émérite, Université Paris Cité

Marcia Jean Rieke, Regents' Professor of Astronomy, Steward Observatory, University of Arizona

Class 2: Biological Sciences

Martin Chalfie, University Professor, Columbia University

Dianne K. Newman, Gordon M. Binder/Amgen Professor of Biology and Geobiology, Merkin Institute Professor, California Institute of Technology

Mary Eleanor Power, Professor, Department of Integrative Biology, University of California, Berkeley; Faculty Manager, Angelo Coast Range Reserve

Terrence J. Sejnowski, Professor, Francis Crick Chair, The Salk Institute for Biological Studies; Professor of Biology, Adjunct Professor of Neurosciences, Cognitive Science, and Computer Science and Engineering, University of California, San Diego

Paul Turner, Rachel Carson Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Yale University; Director of Center for Phage Biology and Therapy at Yale; Faculty Member, Graduate Programs in Microbiology, Yale University School of Medicine

Class 3: Social Sciences

David Card, Class of 1950 Professor of Economics, Director, Center for Labor Economics, Director, Econometrics Laboratory, University of California Berkeley

Esther Duflo, Abdul Latif Jameel Professor of Poverty Alleviation and Development Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Co-Director, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab Chaire, Pauvreté et politiques, Collège de France

Sherrilyn Ifill, Vernon E. Jordan, Jr. Professor of Law, Howard University School of Law

Hazel Rose Markus, Davis-Brack Professor in the Behavioral Sciences, Department of Psychology, Stanford University, Faculty Director, Stanford SPARQ, Stanford University

Angela R. Riley, Professor of Law and American Indian Studies, Carole Goldberg Endowed Chair of Native American Law; Special Advisor to the Chancellor on Native American and Indigenous Affairs, Director, Native Nations Law & Policy Center, UCLA; Justice, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation; Appellate Justice, Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians Court of Appeals; Appellate Justice, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Court of Appeals; Visiting professor, Harvard Kennedy School of Government

Timothy David Snyder, Richard C. Levin Professor of History and Public Affairs, Yale University; Permanent fellow, Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen

Class 4: Humanities

David A. Bell, Director of the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, Princeton University; Sidney and Ruth Lapidus Professor in the Era of North Atlantic Revolutions, Department of History, Princeton University

Brigitte Bedos-Rezak, Professor of History, Affiliate Professor, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, Affiliate Professor, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University

Paul D. Guyer, Jonathan Nelson Professor of Humanities and Philosophy Emeritus, Brown University

Margaret Leah King, Professor Emerita of History, Brooklyn College and Graduate Center, City University of New York

James Lowe Peacock, Kenan Distinguished Professor Emeritus, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



New APS Members gather outside Library Hall during the April 2025 new Member orientation. Photo by Kelly & Massa.

Bottom Row: L-R: Patrick Spero (APS CEO), Katalin Karikó (APS 2024), Brian Joseph (APS 2019), Michèle Lamont (APS 2024), Kathleen McKeown (APS 2024), Christine E. Seidman (APS 2024), Andrew Balmford (APS 2024), Roger Bagnall (APS President) **Middle Row:** L-R: Cecilia Rouse (APS 2021), John Dupré (APS 2023) **Top Row:** L-R: Hermann Parzinger (APS 2013), Jonathan Losos (APS 2024), Dolph Schluter (APS 2024), Richard Levin (APS 2013), Ben Feringa (APS 2024), Francis Collins (APS 2022), Bill Kaelin (APS 2024)

Class 5: The Arts, Professions, and Leaders in Public and Private Affairs

Julie A. Fairman, Nightingale Professor in Nursing Emerita, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing

Alan Michael Garber, President, Harvard University; Mallinckrodt Professor of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School; Professor of Economics, Harvard Faculty of Arts & Sciences; Professor of Public Policy; Harvard Kennedy School; Professor of Health Policy and Management, Harvard Chan School of Public Health

Edward Kane, Senior Advisor and Co-Founder, HarbourVest Partners

William (Bill) Herbert Miller, Retired Founder, Chairman, & Chief Investment Officer, Miller Value Partners

Lance Morgan, President and Chief Executive Officer, Ho-Chunk, Inc.; Founding Partner, Big Fire Law & Policy Group, LLP

Jeffrey Rosen, President, Chief Executive Officer, National Constitution Center; Professor of Law, George Washington University Law School

Bradford Lee Smith, President, Vice Chair, Microsoft

Valerie Smith President, Swarthmore College

International Members

Alejandro de Ávila Blomberg, Founding Director, Ethnobotanical Garden, Oaxaca, México; Curator, Oaxaca Textile Museum

Nicholas Ernst Cronk, Director, Voltaire Foundation for Enlightenment Studies, Professor of European Enlightenment Studies, Emeritus Fellow, St. Edmund Hall, University of Oxford

Egbert “Bert” Willem Meijer Distinguished Professor in the Molecular Sciences, Professor of Organic Chemistry, Eindhoven University of Technology

Paul Nurse, Chief Executive Officer, The Francis Crick Institute; Chancellor, University of Bristol

Meitamei Olol-Dapash, Founder and Executive Director, Maasai Environmental Resource Coalition (MERC); Co-Director, Maasai Community Partnership Project (MCPPE)

María Isabel Grañén Porrúa, President, Alfredo Harp Helú Foundation; President, Civil Association Apoyo al Desarrollo de Archivos y Bibliotecas de México; Director, Francisco de Burga Library, UABJO

Janet Rossant, President and Scientific Director, Gairdner Foundation; Senior Scientist Emeritus, Research Institute, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto; University Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto

Bertrand Van Ruymbeke, Full professor of American Civilization and History, Université de Paris 8 (Vincennes Saint-Denis); Principal Investigator, America 2026

William James Sutherland, Director of Research, Department of Zoology, The University of Cambridge

2025

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Rosalie Silberman Abella delivered the Irving Tragen Lecture on Comparative Law at UC Berkeley Law. • **Daron Acemoglu** was appointed to lead MIT's new James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Center on Inequality and Shaping the Future of Work. • **Elizabeth Alexander** was named to the TIME100 Philanthropy list. • **Larry M. Bartels** received the National Medal of Science. • **Bonnie L. Bassler** received the National Medal of Science.

• **Elizabeth Blackburn** was awarded the insignia of Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur. • **Helen M. Blau** received the National Medal of Science. • **Michael Bloomberg** was named to the TIME100 Philanthropy list. • **Emery N. Brown** received the National Medal of Science. • **Judith Butler** delivered the Charles Homer Haskins Prize Lecture at the American Council of Learned Societies Meeting. • **Steven Chu** received an Ellis Island Medal of Honor. • **Michael M. Crow** was honored at the 29th annual Treasures of Los Angeles event. • **Ingrid Daubechies** received the National Medal of Science. • **Robbert Dijkgraaf** was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. • **Rita Dove** gave the Joshua Ringel Memorial Reading at the Baltimore Museum of Art. • **Cynthia Dwork** received the National Medal of Science. • **Wendy L. Freedman** received the National Medal of Science. • **Henry Louis "Skip" Gates**

won the Newberry Award for leaders in the Humanities. • **David Ginsburg** was selected as the University of Michigan's Henry Russell Lecturer. • **Annette Gordon-Reed** assumed the presidency of the Organization of American Historians. • **Carla Hayden** was appointed as a senior fellow at the Mellon Foundation. • **Avram Hershko** was co-recipient of the 16th Annual Weinman Award. • **Douglas Hofstadter** received Choose Creativity's Curious Cognitive Explorer Award. • **Alberto Ibargüen** was honored with the Esserman-Knight Excellence in Journalism Award, which will be renamed the Alberto Ibargüen Excellence in Journalism Award. • **Katalin Karikó** was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. • **Katalin Karikó** received the Semmelweis Medal by the Medical University of Vienna. • **Katalin Karikó's** pioneering work in mRNA vaccine technology was

AWARDS

November 2024

2024 Henry Allen Moe Prize in the Humanities: **Jan Ziolkowski** in recognition of his paper "The Juggler of Notre Dame and the Medievalizing of Modernity," presented at the APS April 2019 Meeting and published in the *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*, Volume 164.

2024 Jacques Barzun Prize in Cultural History: **Darrin M. McMahon** in recognition of his book *Equality: The History of an Elusive Idea* (Basic Books).

2024 Judson Daland Prize for Achievement in Patient-oriented Clinical Research: **David C. Fajgenbaum** in recognition of his work uncovering mechanisms and therapeutics across hyperinflammatory disorders and rare diseases.

2024 Karl Spencer Lashley Award: **Margaret Livingstone**, in recognition of fundamental discoveries concerning the organization and development of functionally specific processing pathways in the primate visual system.

2024 Patrick Suppes Prize in History of Science: **Naomi Oreskes** in recognition of her book *Science on a Mission: How Military Funding Shaped What We Do and Don't Know about the Ocean* (The University of Chicago Press).

April 2025

2025 John Frederick Lewis Award: **Bob Frishman** in recognition of his book *Edward Duffield: Philadelphia Clockmaker, Citizen, Gentleman, 1730-1803*.

2024 Magellanic Premium: **Barbara Wold** in recognition of her central role in the development of methods and insights that have transformed our understanding of gene expression in biological systems.



Darrin M. McMahon



Jan Ziolkowski

honored in the exhibit, *Forever Forward*, at Vienna's Museum of Medical History, the Josephinum. • **Martin Kern** was awarded the 18th China Special Book Award. • **Desmond King** was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. • **Mary-Claire King** was awarded the Princess of Asturias Award for Technical and Scientific Research. • **Philip Kitcher** was awarded the BBVA Foundation Frontiers of Knowledge Award. • **Jianguo "Jack" Liu** was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. • **Douglas S. Massey** was granted the Princess of Asturias Award for Social Sciences. • **Martha Minow** received the Hon. Robert A. Katzmann Award for Academic Excellence. • **Ellen Mosley-Thompson** was the National Award Recipient of the Distinguished Alumna of Marshall University. • **Alondra Nelson** received the NAACP-Archewell Digital Civil Rights Award. • **Mary Beth**

Norton was honored with Harvard's Kenneth C. Griffin Graduate School of Arts & Sciences Centennial Medal. • **Itzhak Perlman** and Toby Perlman were awarded the Samuel Simons Sanford Medal. • **Marilyn Raphael** was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. • **Judith Resnik** was named recipient of the Elga R. Wasserman Courage, Clarity, and Leadership Award by the Yale Women Faculty Forum. • **Marcia Rieke** was granted the Henry Norris Russell Lectureship by the American Astronomical Society. • **Cecilia Rouse** delivered the closing keynote address at the Julis-Rabinowitz Center for Public Policy & Finance Conference. • **Christine E. Seidman** received the Paul Dudley White Award from the American Heart Association. • **Terrence J. Sejnowski** was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. • **Gayatri Spivak** was awarded the Holberg Prize. • **Richard J.**

Tarrant received the Antonio Feltrinelli Prize for the Humanities in Classical Philology from the Academia dei Lincei. • **Twyla Tharp** was awarded the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the Venice Biennale Danza. • **Lonnie G. Thompson** was the National Award Recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus of Marshall University. • **Darren Walker** received an Ellis Island Medal of Honor. • **Darren Walker** was named to the TIME100 Philanthropy list. • **Kara Walker** delivered the Belknap Lecture as the Princeton University Humanities Council's Spring 2025 Belknap Visitor in the Humanities. • **David R. Walt** received the National Medal of Technology and Innovation. • **Patricia J. Williams** was named a recipient of a Windham-Campbell Prize for Nonfiction.



Bob Frishman



Barbara Wold



Naomi Oreskes



Margaret Livingstone



David C. Fajgenbaum

APS PRESS

Q&A with Author Cass R. Sunstein

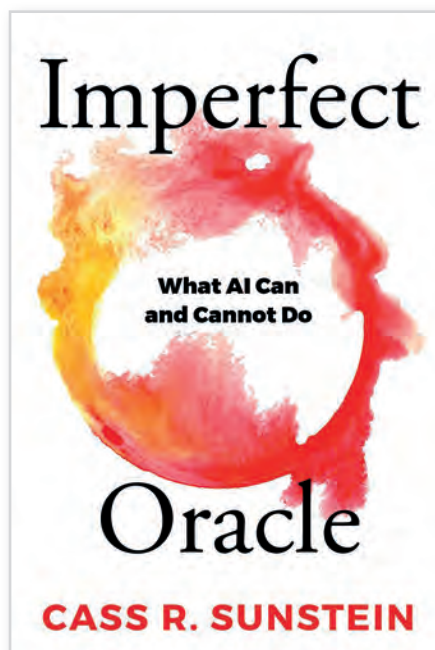
Photograph by Rose Lincoln



In October of 2025 the APS Press will publish *Imperfect Oracle: What AI Can and Cannot Do* by Cass R. Sunstein (APS 2010), the Robert Walmsley University Professor at Harvard Law School. In advance of publication, we asked Cass to answer a few questions about his book.

Q: What is *Imperfect Oracle* about?

A: It's about two things. First: Why human beings make mistakes, and how AI can help. The last 50 years or so have seen a revolution in understanding human error—the behavioral revolution, we might call it. People show “cognitive biases”; we tend to be focused on today rather than tomorrow, and we tend to be too optimistic. We are noisy; we make different decisions on Monday and on Friday, and if we are tired, well, who knows what we might do? (Maybe just fall asleep.) AI can overcome bias and also noise. That's great! I have a lot to say about AI-powered Choice Engines and how they can help. Second: Some problems are beyond the capacity of AI—now, and forever. You'll see. I won't spoil the surprise (see at right).



Q: What made you want to write about AI?

A: It's kind of important? Also, I thought I had a few things to add, especially by bringing what we know about our species in close contact with AI.

Q: How do you see this book relating to *Nudge* and the other books you've written?

A: This is a big new departure for me. I haven't focused on AI before. There's a lot in the book about large language models, and even more about algorithms. I bring all that in contact with some things I have worked on before, including nudging and human biases, but the fundamental themes are new. Still, I couldn't do this book without the earlier ones.

Q: Why were you interested in publishing this book with the APS Press?

A: AI told me to do that! Also, the magnificent history and the chance to work with the legendary Peter Dougherty.

Q: What is one thing everyone can take away from *Imperfect Oracle*?

A: Amidst all the justified excitement, AI won't be able to make certain predictions about the future. It can't say whether two people will fall in love. It can't say whether a song or a movie will be a hit. It can't say who will be the next president, or whether there will be a revolution in one or another country. Life is full of mysteries, and AI won't take them away.



Scan to order the book



Peter Conn, author of *Thomas Sully's Philadelphians: Painting the Athens of America* (APS Press), signs books after speaking at the Philadelphia Athenaeum in April 2025. Photo by Allison Cadle.

IF 2023 WAS THE YEAR THAT PETER DOUGHERTY TOOK the APS Press “down to the studs” and 2024 was the year that the foundation of the publication strategy was laid with the establishment of the future book series central to the editorial program of the Press—*Learned Lives and Disciplines and Discontinuities*—then 2025 was the year the Press really started building itself back up by establishing itself again in the public consciousness. We invited the publishing community of Philadelphia to our bi-monthly publishing salons; we attended two academic conferences, one professional conference, and the American Library Association annual conference in Philadelphia. Kimberly Guinta, the director of the Press, provided the APS Fellows and grantees with an

overview of academic publishing. Several authors launched their books at APS public lectures or Lunch at the Library. And the Press published four issues of each of its two journals, *Proceedings* and *Transactions*, as well as nine books in 2025. More books are already in the works for 2026, and we have books set for 2027 and 2028, giving us a pipeline of content for the first time in a long time. We want to encourage any Members or Friends who have been working on a book project to consider the APS Press as a potential publishing avenue, and to reach out to Kimberly Guinta for more information: [kguinta@amphilsoc.org](mailto:kgunta@amphilsoc.org). The APS Press has one of the most amazing backlists of any scholarly press and that is all due to the work of Members who published with us.

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Lewis and Clark Fund grant recipient Lauren Howe-Kerr and colleagues collecting coral samples for microbial analysis in Mo'orea, French Polynesia. Photo by Carsten Grupstra.

**Upcoming Meetings of the
American Philosophical Society**

Thursday–Saturday
November 13–15, 2025
(held in San Diego, CA)

Wednesday–Friday
April 22–24, 2026

Thursday–Saturday
November 19–21, 2026

A Word about the Penrose Association

A planned gift offers a way for you to establish a lasting legacy at the American Philosophical Society through a substantial contribution that may not be possible during your lifetime. The Society gratefully recognizes those who have named us as a beneficiary in their wills, made us the beneficiary of a retirement account or insurance policy, or established a charitable trust or annuity as members of the Richard A. F. Penrose, Jr. Association. For more information about planned giving options and tax benefits, and to discuss how you would like your gift to be used, please contact

Linda Jacobs at 215-440-3434 or
ljacobs@amphilsoc.org.