



Archaeological Institute of America Mission, Vision, and Values Statement

OUR MISSION

The Archaeological Institute of America promotes archaeological inquiry and public understanding of the material record of the human past to foster an appreciation of diverse cultures and our shared humanity. The AIA supports archaeologists, their research and its dissemination, and the ethical practice of archaeology. The AIA educates people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery and advocates for the preservation of the world's archaeological heritage.

OUR VISION

We seek to achieve an archaeology that broadens our vision, deepens our understanding, and expands our humanity. The Archaeological Institute of America is committed to action by:

Preserving, protecting, and interpreting the fragile record of the human past by employing the highest ethical, professional, and intellectual standards;

Exploring and understanding the dynamics of past human cultures and environments through the material record of sites, monuments, and objects;

Utilizing archaeological inquiry to answer urgent questions about our present-day cultures, societies, and environment;

Strengthening support for the work of archaeologists and the sharing of their findings with professionals and the public using multiple media platforms.

Seeking an ever richer understanding of the human past through the integration of multi-disciplinary perspectives;

Embracing a collaborative and inclusive view of world archaeology that recognizes the interests of practicing archaeologists, community stakeholders, and curious minds;

Inspiring audiences to engage in learning more about the past to better understand the present, and in support of a more informed future; and

Expanding the discipline to engage a diverse new generation of archaeologists.



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OUR VALUES

Exploration, Knowledge, Analysis, Interpretation. Archaeologists investigate the material record of past human cultures, analyze the processes that formed them to reconstruct past human activities and environments, and interpret their findings to help us understand the present.

Professional Expertise, Ethics, and Accountability. The AIA expects archaeologists to commit to the highest standards of ethics and professionalism and deploy their expertise with integrity. Archaeologists are responsible for sharing their findings with other researchers, community stakeholders, and the public.

Connectivity, Engagement, Collaboration, Integration. Understanding our shared past brings the public and archaeologists together for the benefit of all. Archaeology is a collaborative enterprise that is strengthened by the engagement of multiple perspectives. Insights from many academic disciplines as well as community stakeholders encourages a comprehensive understanding of the human past. In understanding this past, archaeological perspectives can also help achieve a more just, inclusive, and equitable society.

Passion, Inspiration, Stewardship. Archaeologists and the public share a passion for exploring the past. Knowledge of the past informs and inspires people in the present. Responsible stewardship of archaeological heritage will ensure that it is preserved and interpreted for the common good.

EXCAVATE



EDUCATE



ADVOCATE