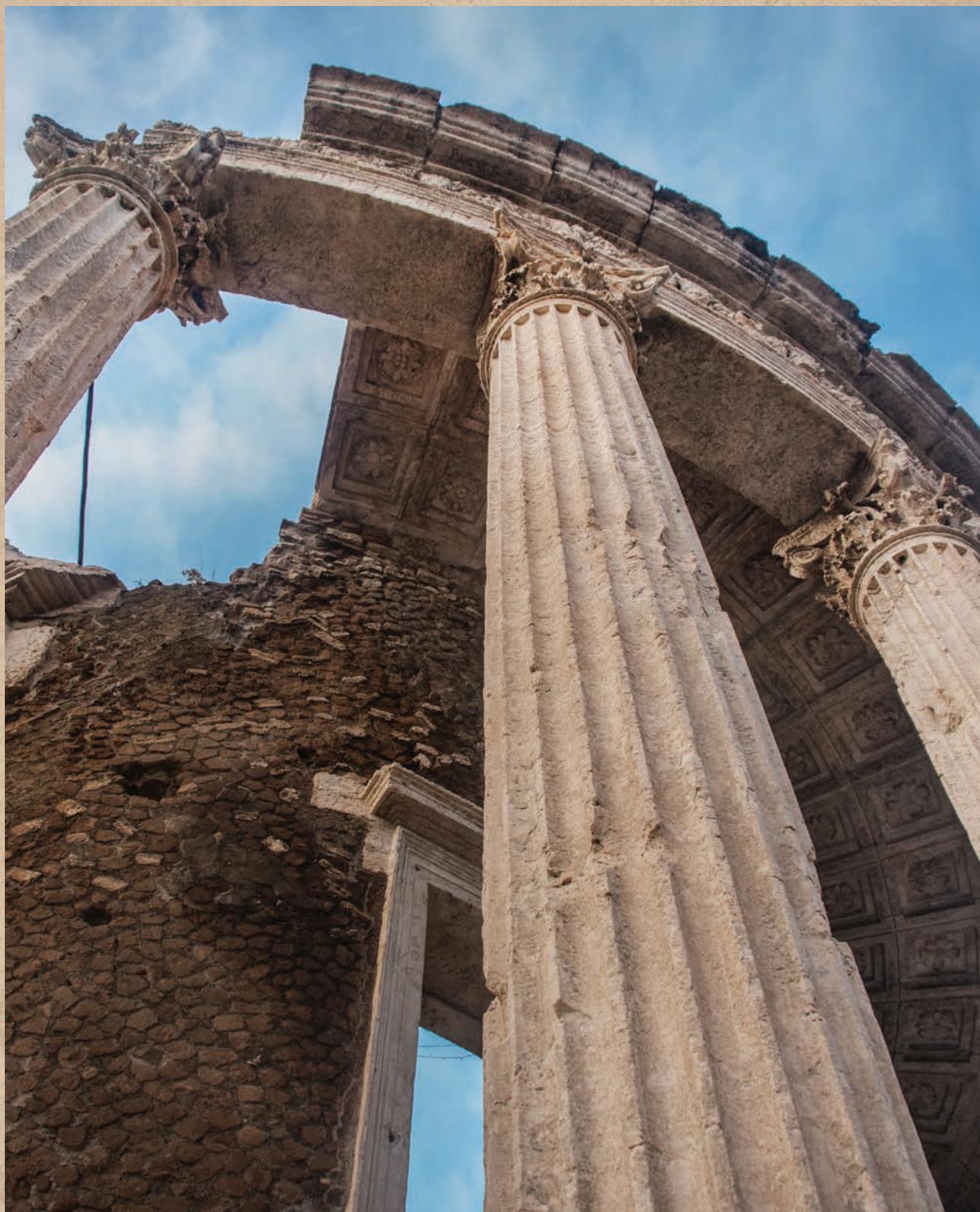


146 YEARS OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Archaeological
Institute of America
2025
ANNUAL REPORT





OUR MISSION

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is the world's oldest and largest archaeological organization. The AIA is a nonprofit founded in 1879 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1906. We have members in more than 100 Local Societies in the United States, Canada, and overseas. This includes professional archaeologists, students, and enthusiasts, all united by their passion for archaeology and its role in furthering knowledge.

The AIA **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. We **support** archaeologists, their research and its dissemination, and the ethical practice of archaeology. We **educate** people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery and **advocate** for the preservation of the world's archaeological heritage.

AIA members are committed to advancing the understanding of archaeology, protecting and preserving the world's archaeological resources, and supporting research and publication in the field. The Institute has established research centers and schools in seven countries and maintains close collaboration with these institutions. Its professional members actively conduct field work around the globe.

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Front cover: Photo by Dan Diffendale. The Temple of Vesta, Tivoli, Lazio, Italy.



PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friend of the Archaeological Institute of America, Archaeology tells the story of the human past and plays a crucial role in how we understand our shared place in the world in the present. For the last 146 years, the Archaeological Institute of America has supported professional archaeologists, championed committed students, and engaged passionate enthusiasts, enabling each of us to exchange our archaeological stories. We are committed to preservation and stewardship for the future.

In 2025, our dedicated staff, board, and committee members worked along myriad avenues to promote ethical archaeological excavation, education, and engagement. Below are just a few examples of the people we reached and the breadth of our initiatives undertaken over the course of the calendar year.

For professional archaeologists and students in the field we...

are on track to award more than \$270,000 in funding for archaeological research, scientific analysis, museum internships, publication initiatives, and outreach and engagement activities.

assembled more than 2,000 scholars to share their work and celebrate their achievements at our Annual Meeting, which explores heritage in the Mediterranean and beyond.

published the *American Journal of Archaeology*, the field's premier American resource for disseminating scholarly research.

expanded our Archaeological Field School Scholarship Program, enabling us to support 16 students participating in their first field work experiences in 10 countries on three continents.



For every person who thirsts for knowledge about our shared past we...

published *ARCHAEOLOGY* Magazine for the 75th year, reaching millions of readers across the world through print and digital engagement.

supported hundreds of worldwide events and activities to celebrate the field on International Archaeology Day.

hosted 172 lectures attended by 19,000 people in person and online, supporting 103 Local Societies in four countries to promote widespread interest in archaeology.

And for the future of the world's heritage we...

advocated for the preservation of cultural heritage in the face of threats including war, looting, and climate change.

spoke out against efforts to curtail protections for archaeological sites in the United States and to reduce support for scientific research and education.

spearheaded campaigns intended to safeguard sites and monuments through new, renewed, or emergency agreements with 10 countries.

As president and executive director of the AIA, we are grateful to our members, volunteers, officers, subscribers, and donors who have expressed their commitment to the AIA in countless ways over the past year and whom we are confident we can count on for the future. It is only with your support that we can continue to tell inspiring archaeological stories.

Dr. Elizabeth Greene,
President

Kevin M. Quinlan,
Executive Director



MEET THE BOARD

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C. Brian Rose
Jane Waldbaum
Stephen Dyson
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**Honorary Presidents of the AIA
are former presidents who are still living.*

LEGAL COUNSEL

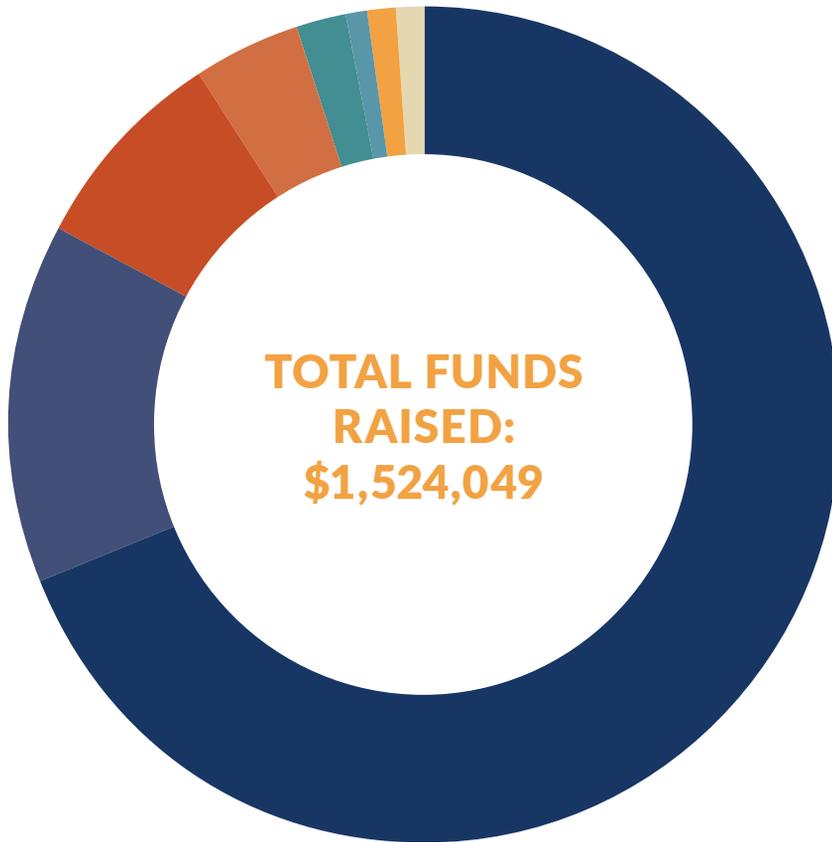
Mitchell S. Eitel – Sullivan & Cromwell, LLP

ANNUAL FUND RECAP

Every gift makes a difference, and this year your collective generosity powered the AIA to raise \$726,990 for the Annual Fund—exceeding our goal once again. The Annual Fund is the cornerstone of the AIA’s financial health. It provides vital resources to expand educational programming, award scholarships to deserving students, and advance critical archaeological research. These contributions not only sustain our work but also open the door to new opportunities that shape the future of archaeology. We are deeply grateful to everyone who made our success possible. Your generosity has a tangible impact and ensures that the AIA continues to thrive.



FY25 FUNDRAISING YEAR IN REVIEW



■ Annual Fund	\$726,990
■ Grants and Fellowships	\$145,000
■ ARCHAEOLOGY Magazine Endowment	\$85,011
■ The Fund for the AIA*	\$45,000
■ Jane C. Waldbaum Archaeological Field School Scholarship Fund	\$21,100
■ The Fund for the AJA	\$12,800
■ Financial Software Upgrade	\$7,255
■ Lectures	\$7,000

TOTAL BEQUESTS

The Fund for AIA*	\$45,000
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*Denotes a bequest is part of the total



2025 AIA Award winners at the awards ceremony during the 126th Annual Meeting

2025 ANNUAL MEETING

The AIA and the Society for Classical Studies (SCS) held our 126th joint Annual Meeting in Philadelphia from January 2 to 5. The meeting included a full program of more than 85 academic sessions featuring over 450 presenters, as well as nearly 40 meetings of committees and interest groups.

The AIA and SCS programs featured four hybrid and six in-person tracks for each organization. All presenters had the option of giving their talk in person or virtually.

Attendance at the meeting continues to rebound after the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2025, we had 2,032 attendees—1,865 of whom attended in-person.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year, the AIA community gathers to honor the individuals and teams that have made significant contributions to the field of archaeology. Thanks to the generous support of our donors, these awards and fellowships continue to recognize and celebrate excellence across the field. The AIA was proud to recognize outstanding archaeological achievement in multiple areas with awards presented at the 2025 Annual Meeting.



16

TOTAL AWARDS
PRESENTED

9

FELLOWSHIPS &
GRANTS AWARDED



18

SCHOLARSHIP
AWARD RECIPIENTS

77,000+

MILES TRAVELED BY
FIELD SCHOOL
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS





Trevor van Damme, recipient of the Richard C. MacDonald Iliad Endowment for Archaeological Research Grant, credits the AIA Annual Meeting in furthering his professional development:

The AIA has contributed greatly to my professional development as an archaeologist. I have been an AIA member since 2012, when I presented my first paper at the 113th Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, and I have attended every meeting since then. It has been an important venue to interact with colleagues from other institutions and maintain friendships forged during field work and in graduate school over the years.



Susanna Faas-Bush, the 2024–2025 Olivia James Traveling Fellow, shares a recent update:

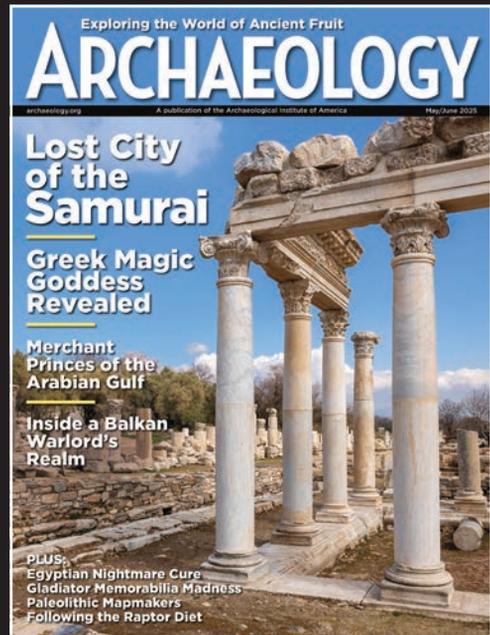
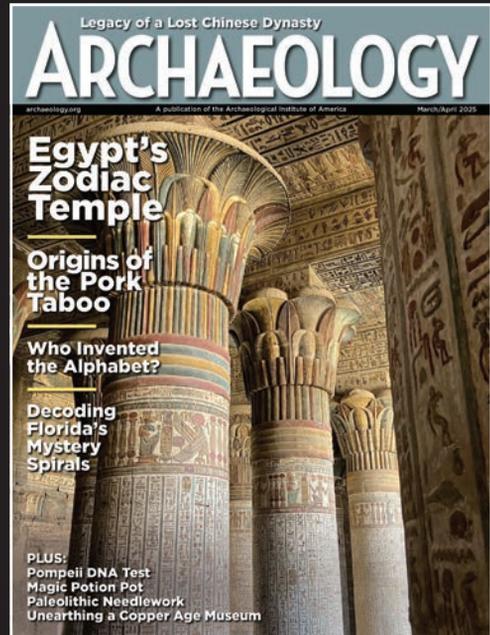
During her year as the Olivia James Traveling Fellow, Susanna traced artifacts from the ancient Roman Villa della Pisanella across Italy, Germany, France, Belgium, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Her extended stay in Pompeii, made possible by the fellowship funds, allowed her to locate and confirm the provenance of over 300 artifacts from the villa that had long been considered lost or destroyed. By visiting the various locations now housing the villa's artifacts, Susanna has been able to share primary sources with other scholars, laying the groundwork for new projects and collaborations in the future.



ARCHAEOLOGY MAGAZINE

For more than 75 years, ARCHAEOLOGY Magazine has been a leader in the field of general-interest science journalism. What began as an inspired idea to create a magazine for the public about the world of archaeology in all parts of the globe and from all time periods has grown into a publication with more than 175,000 loyal print subscribers whose commitment to and love for the title is unparalleled. The magazine reaches millions of members of the public in ways our remarkable founders could never have imagined—through digital subscriptions, the magazine’s website, and numerous social media outlets. Archaeology enthusiasts can thus enjoy content under the aegis of the AIA every day in many ways.

The editors of ARCHAEOLOGY Magazine have always been devoted to sharing the excitement of archaeological discovery, the field’s scientific and technological advances, and the most current and compelling interpretations of this ever-evolving field. As one of the AIA’s premier publications, the magazine is uniquely positioned to share the stories of people of the past through compelling narratives, superior photography and design, and the highest standards of accuracy, integrity, and respect for peoples of both the past and present. The magazine’s editors remain committed to the AIA’s mission to foster and nurture the public’s desire to learn ever more about human history.



THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY (AJA)

The *AJA* is the peer-reviewed academic journal of the AIA, covering original research on the diverse peoples and material cultures of the Mediterranean and related areas, including North Africa with Egypt and Sudan, Western Asia, and Europe, from prehistory through Late Antiquity and beyond.

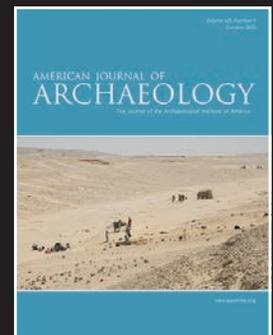
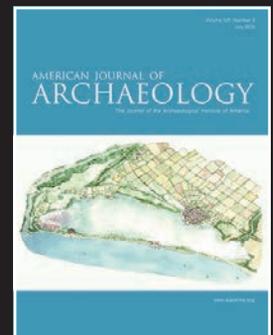
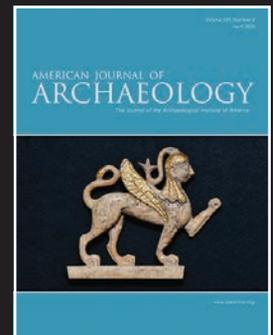
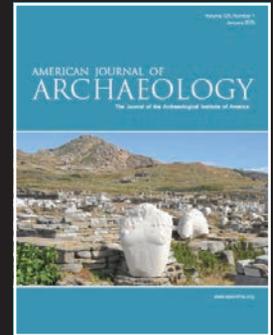
Since 1885, the *AJA* has published scholarship ranging from field reports on the latest discoveries, to broad-scale, synthetic analyses of ancient societies and material culture, to close studies of individual artifacts.

In FY25, we published the last issue of volume 128 and the first issue of volume 129.

In 2024, the *AJA* published 18 print articles, one field report, four museum reviews, two archaeological notes, and two editorial letters. This was the work of 56 authors in total, amounting to 616 printed pages. The *AJA* also published 36 book reviews by 35 authors, which were only released online and remained open access throughout the previous year.

As of mid-September 2025, the most read article in the past 12 months was Sarah E. Beckmann’s “The Naked Reader: Child Enslavement in the Villa of the Mysteries Fresco” in issue 127.1, with over 29,900 online views. Open access content consistently draws more views than subscription-only content, and the vast majority of open access articles in the *AJA* appear at no cost to the authors, thanks to donations to the Society for the *AJA* and subscription revenue.

In 2026, we will publish volume 130 of the journal. It is remarkable to think about everything the journal has survived over the past 130 years—world wars, depressions, recessions, and political upheaval in the countries where authors conduct their field work. The pages of the journal have evidenced dramatic changes in the way archaeology is done, both in terms of methodology and technology, as well as in terms of interpretive paradigms and our understanding of the human past. The longevity of this publication speaks to the dedication and care of everyone involved with it, including authors, peer reviewers, editors, readers, subscribers, donors, and more. We look forward to continuing our work.



MEMBERSHIP

As of September 29, 2025, the AIA counted over 6,200 members, with archaeology enthusiasts making up 55%, professionals 27%, and students 18% of the membership.

In FY25, 801 new members joined the AIA, including a 12% increase in student membership, and overall member retention remained high at 86%. The AIA also benefits from the dedication of 600 members who volunteer as society officers, committee members, and event organizers.



- Archaeology enthusiasts 55%
- Professionals 27%
- Students 18%



6,200+
AIA MEMBERS



77%
OF MEMBERS HAVE GONE GREEN
AND SIGNED UP FOR AUTO RENEWAL

801

NEW MEMBERS JOINED
THE AIA IN FY25



12%

INCREASE IN STUDENT
MEMBERS LAST YEAR



86%

MEMBERSHIP RETENTION



600

MEMBERS VOLUNTEERED
THEIR TIME

SOCIETIES

AIA societies provide members with a community and a network of individuals who share a passion for archaeology. Societies help promote awareness of the field, maintain national AIA programs, and support the Institute's goals.

Many societies also organize programs to support regional archaeology and local archaeologists. To that end, the Society Outreach Grant Program encourages societies to plan and implement outreach activities in their local communities. Any event that promotes archaeology, the AIA's mission, and focuses on public outreach and education can qualify for funding.

The AIA awarded four Society Outreach Grants in 2025 to Athens (Georgia), Central Carolinas, New Orleans, and Worcester. We received follow-ups from two societies about previous grants they received:

The AIA-Rome Society received a Society Outreach Grant in fall 2024 for their April 2025 event, "Hands-On Greek Vases." The event, held in collaboration with the American Academy in Rome, was organized by Professor Massimo Betello, secretary of the local AIA Rome SPQR Society, and Professor Valentina Follo, curator of the Van Buren Archaeological Study Collection at the American Academy in Rome. Betello and Follo allowed the event's 40 participants to handle original vases from the Van Buren collection. They brought in ceramicist Roberto Paolini from the Etruscan site of Cerveteri who demonstrated how to achieve perfect circles with a single-hair brush and how easy it is to correct mistakes on unfired vases.

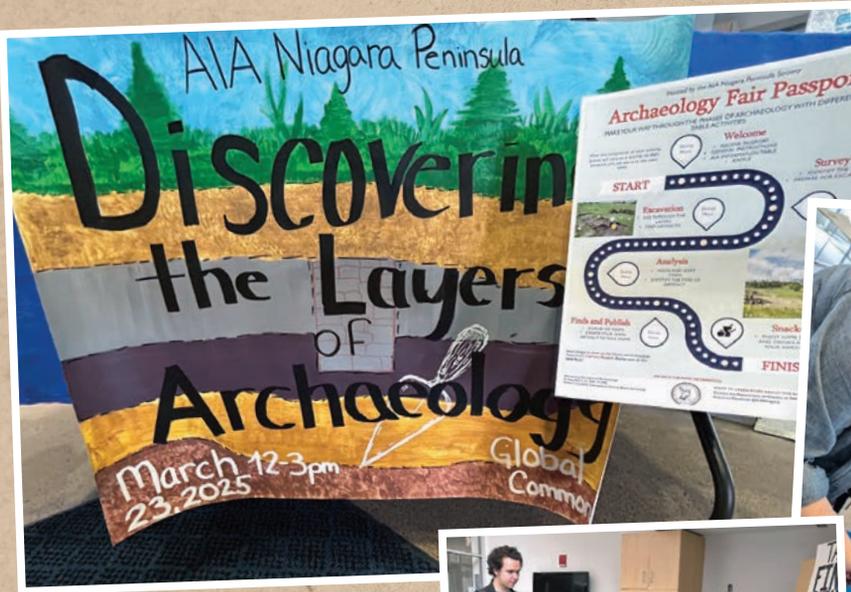
The AIA-Niagara Peninsula Society received a Society Outreach Grant in spring 2024 for their March 2025 event at Brock University, a fair called "Discovering the Layers of Archaeology." The event's 50 attendees explored four tables representing the steps of field work: survey, excavation, analysis, and finds and publication. Guests were also encouraged to visit the Brock University Classics and Archaeology Department's Cypriote Museum. Society Officers shared that it was a joy to spread the techniques and practices of archaeology to younger individuals and those interested in learning more about the profession.



SOCIETY OUTREACH GRANTS

Below is a selection of wonderful photos taken by the AIA-Rome Society and the AIA-Niagara Peninsula Society at their outreach events.

**AIA-NIAGARA
PENINSULA SOCIETY**



AIA-ROME SOCIETY



LECTURE PROGRAM

The AIA's National Lecture Program remains a cornerstone of the Institute's commitment to public engagement through archaeological programming. The 2024–2025 National Lecture Program continued in its hybrid, three-component format, consisting of lectures hosted by Local Societies, monthly online lectures, and Local Lecture Grants to support additional programming at AIA societies.

An estimated 19,000 people attended 172 lectures organized by AIA Societies over the past year, and 4,799 individuals participated in the AIA's monthly virtual lecture series, *Archaeology Hour*. These events reflect our ongoing mission to advance educational opportunities and promote dialogue in the archaeological community.

The AIA continued to offer both the Norton and Joukowsky Lectureships as part of the National Lecture Program. These lectureships were awarded to some of the most well-regarded and exciting scholars in the field.

The AIA also continued to support additional programming for Local Societies through the Local Lecture Grant Program, awarding 66 grants to fund lectures and archaeological programming for societies, members, and the general public to enjoy.

Among our excellent lectures, some topics from the 2024–2025 season include:

**“The way we lived was shaped by objects”
Contemporary Reflections on Black Materiality
(Dr. Whitney Battle-Baptiste)**

Archaeology, its Colonial Past, and its Collaborative Future: A Community Project in El-Kurru, Northern Sudan (Dr. Geoff Emberling)

**Mysteries Past and Present: How Genetics is Helping us Answer Questions About the Past
(Dr. Turi King)**





CULTURAL PROPERTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CPAC)

The AIA submitted nine letters to CPAC, covering 126 UNESCO World Heritage sites across these countries—an average of 14 per country. Together, these countries encompass 2,199,200 square miles.

Through educational videos, informative webinars with in-country experts, letter-writing campaigns, and oral testimony at CPAC meetings, the AIA demonstrated its strong support for the preservation of archaeological sites around the world.

COUNTRY	WORLD HERITAGE SITES	SQUARE MILES
ITALY	61	116,310
TÜRKIYE	22	302,535
COLOMBIA	9	440,831
MOROCCO	9	172,317
VIETNAM	9	128,000
CHILE	7	291,933
COSTA RICA	4	19,760
CAMEROON	3	475,442
AFGHANISTAN	2	252,072



NORTON SOCIETY

Named for the founder and first president of the AIA, the Charles Eliot Norton Society is comprised of some of the AIA's most loyal supporters. Including the AIA in your estate plans will provide a gift that will carry the organization into the future and ensure our continued growth.

David Adam
Susan Allen
Peter Allen
Craig Anderson
Robert Atwater
Elizabeth Bartman
Marshall Becker
David Boochever
Edward Boshell
Thomas Carpenter
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Lucinda Conger
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MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT THE
NORTON SOCIETY**

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The Temple of Vesta, Tivoli, Lazio, Italy

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A painted wall relief in a Saqqara tomb
showing an Egyptian man leading his
cattle, Giza, Egypt

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Spring views over the House of the
Two Peristyles in ancient Phoenike,
Vlorë, Albania

Page 4: Photo by Alison Park Douglas.
The dramatic cliffside views of Skellig
Michael, Kerry, Ireland

Page 12: AIA-Niagara Peninsula photos
L: Photo by Jazz Demetriooff.
R: Photo by Steph Rad.
Center: Photo by Riley Provost.

AIA-Rome Society
Photos by Massimo Betello.

Page 13: Photo by Rebecca Levitan.
Visiting the newly reopened Mausoleum
of Augustus, Rome, Lazio, Italy

Page 14: Photo by Will Skelton.
House of Fire Ancestral Puebloan
ruin, Bears Ears National Monument,
Utah, United States

Page 15: Photo by Betsy Haas.
Northeast corner of the Bent Pyramid,
Dahshur, Egypt

Page 17: Photo by Wong Seong Wah.
Persepolis at sunset, Fars, Iran



