



IDAHO STATE  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## 2021 ANNUAL SUMMARY



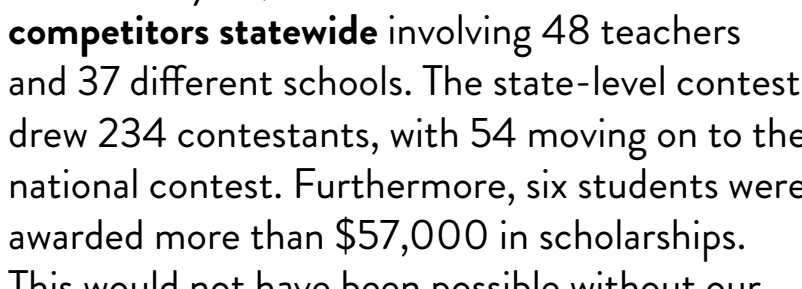
### ADMINISTRATION

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**\$600,000**

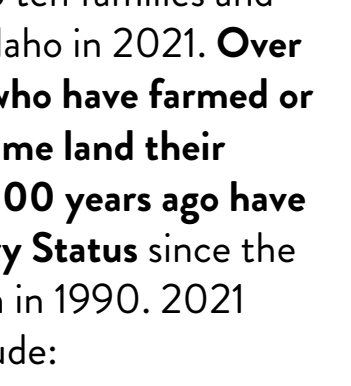
Rock Creek Station and Stricker Historic Homesite welcomed nearly **\$600,000** in contributions from the **Janice Seagraves Family Foundation, Maurice Bowers Charitable Trust, Grace Smith Keveren and Kenneth A. Keveren Foundation, Friends of Stricker support organization, and the State of Idaho**. These major repairs, renovations, and new interpretation brings the site's rich Oregon Trail history to life and ensures the site will be open for future generations. A new educational pavilion also provides shelter and learning opportunities for area students.



The National History Day 2021 contest resulted in eight Idaho contestants earning national recognition and an Idaho teacher being named finalist for teacher of the year.

In its 38th year, the contest drew **over 660 competitors statewide** involving 48 teachers and 37 different schools. The state-level contest drew 234 contestants, with 54 moving on to the national contest. Furthermore, six students were awarded more than \$57,000 in scholarships. This would not have been possible without our partners at the College of Idaho and the dedication of Idaho teachers and students who shared their passion for history.

**OVER 500**



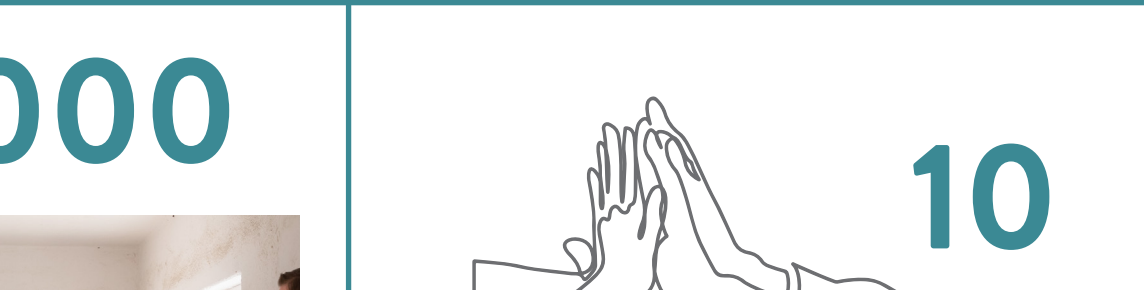
The Idaho State Historical Society awarded Century Farm and Ranch designations to ten families and farms across Idaho in 2021. **Over 500 families who have farmed or ranched the same land their ancestors did 100 years ago have earned Century Status** since the program began in 1990. 2021 recipients include:

**Benjamin Farm, Latah County**  
**Hansen's N5 Ranch, Teton County**  
**Iverson Ranch, Latah County**  
**Mickelson Ranch, Teton County**  
**Matheson Heritage Farm, Kootenai County**  
**Reed Farms, Twin Falls County**  
**Smith Farm, Minidoka County**  
**Soldier Creek Ranch, Camas County**  
**Young Farm, Minidoka County**  
**Zitlau Valley Farm, Jefferson County**

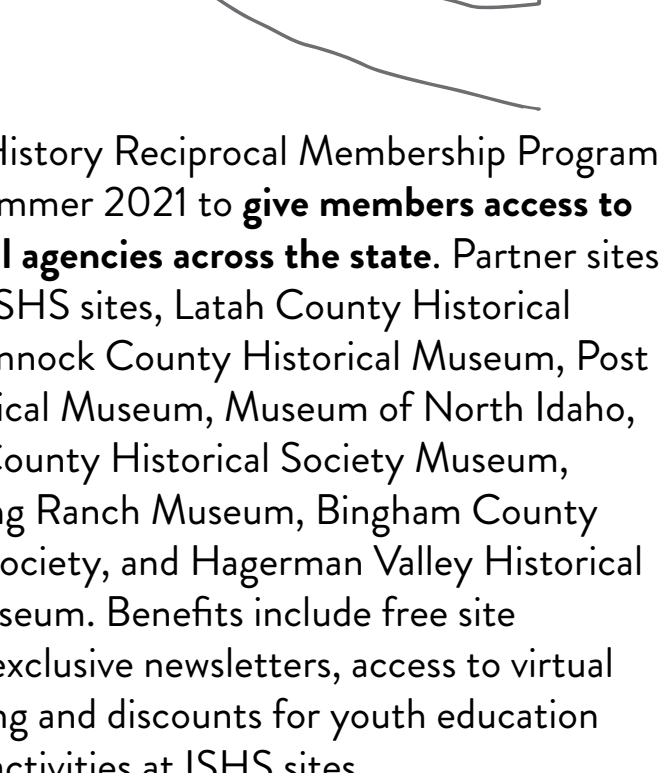
This program preserves the stories of Idaho's pioneering agricultural families and most importantly it ensures that Idaho's agricultural industry remains vibrant and continues to thrive in the future.



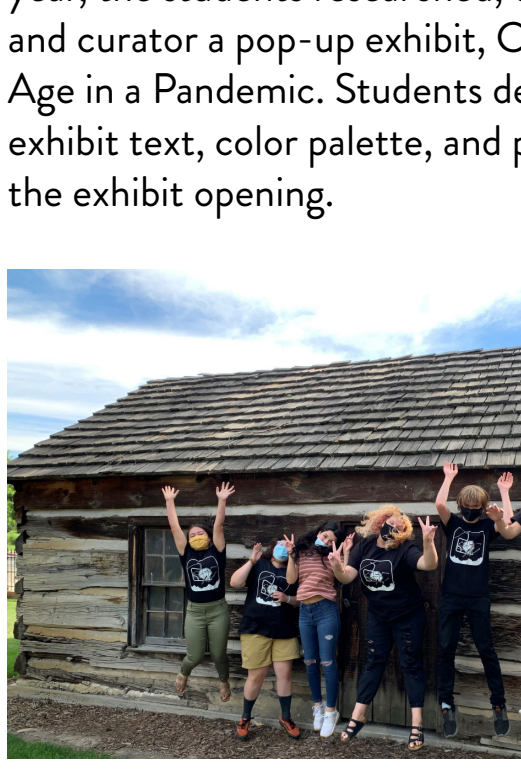
**775**



ISHS debuted new membership levels and benefits in Summer 2021. Renamed after precious gems from the Gem State, each level includes new experiences and additional one-time and year-round guest passes. Benefits also include historic walking tours, special discounts in ISHS stores and with The Grove Hotel and Hotel 43 in Boise, Behind Gray Walls private sessions, curated artifact tours, lunch with our State Historian and much more. Memberships fees drive educational programs, scholarships, and conservation of historic artifacts. Our current family of members has grown to **more than 775** this year.



**2,000**



ISHS volunteers are vital to continuing our mission of preserving and promoting Idaho history. In the last fiscal year, more than 250 volunteers contributed more than **2,000 hours** to our sites and as judges for National History Day.



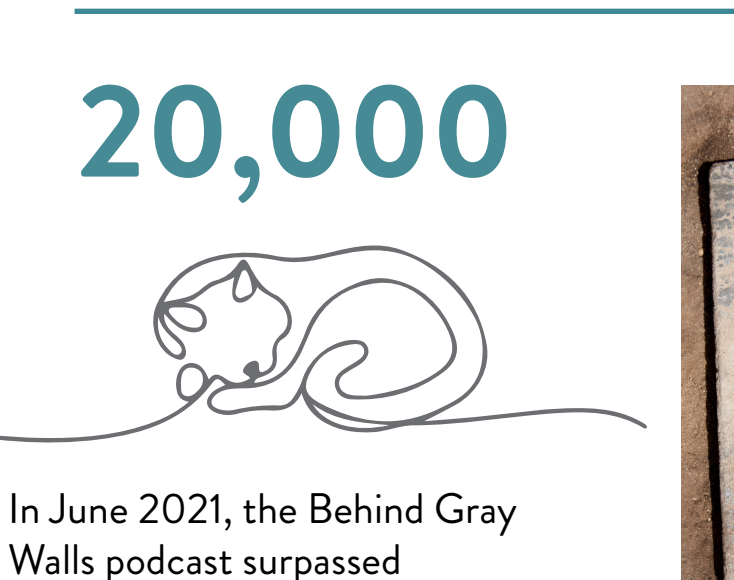
**10**

The Idaho History Reciprocal Membership Program debuted Summer 2021 to **give members access to 10 historical agencies across the state**. Partner sites include all ISHS sites, Latah County Historical Society, Bannock County Historical Museum, Post Falls Historical Museum, Museum of North Idaho, Twin Falls County Historical Society Museum, White Spring Ranch Museum, Bingham County Historical Society, and Hagerman Valley Historical Society Museum. Benefits include free site admission, exclusive newsletters, access to virtual programming and discounts for youth education and family activities at ISHS sites.

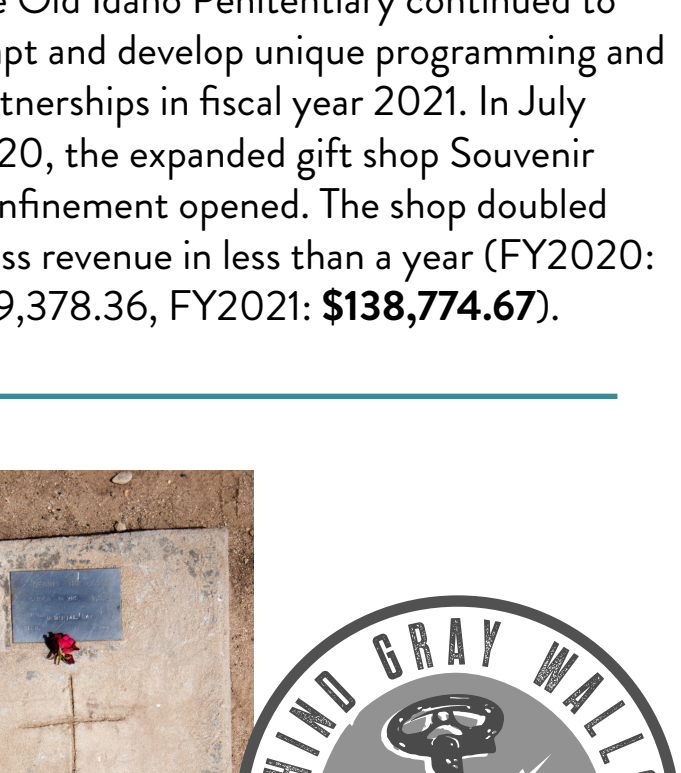
### IDAHO STATE MUSEUM

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**11**

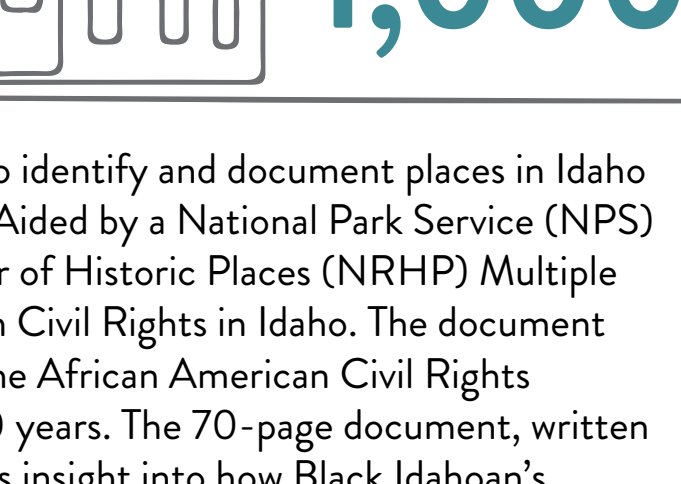


The Guide, Engage, Mobilize (GEM) High School Internship Program brought together **11** passionate, curious and innovative teens to develop skills that will prepare them for college or career. This year, the students researched, designed, and curator a pop-up exhibit, Coming of Age in a Pandemic. Students developed exhibit text, color palette, and planned the exhibit opening.



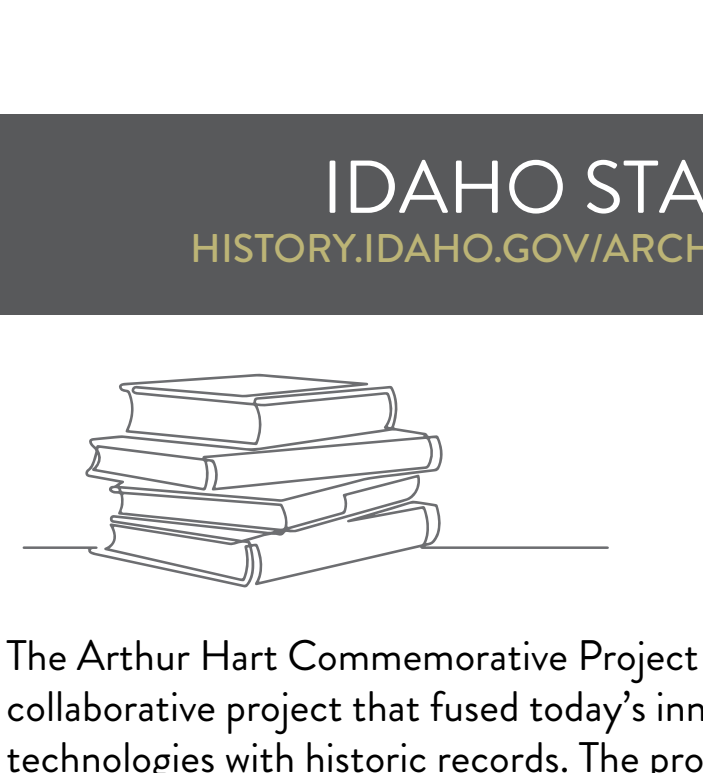
**MORE THAN 100**

The Trailblazing Women of Idaho exhibition opened March 2021 and features **over 100** women from across the state, all selected by a statewide Advisory Committee of women across all fields. The exhibit includes more than 100 artifacts, including 64 that have never been displayed before. A series of inspirational public programs extended the exhibition experience and forged new relationships with new partners across the state.



### OLD IDAHO PENITENTIARY

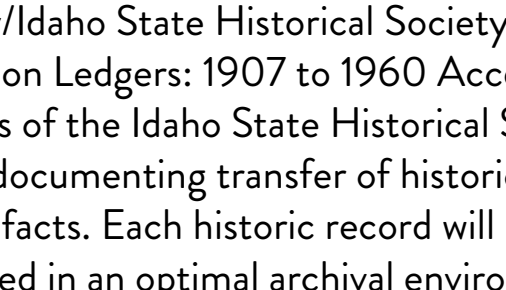
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**\$138,774.67**

The Old Idaho Penitentiary continued to adapt and develop unique programming and partnerships in fiscal year 2021. In July 2020, the expanded gift shop Souvenir Confinement opened. The shop doubled gross revenue in less than a year (FY2020: \$69,378.36, FY2021: **\$138,774.67**).

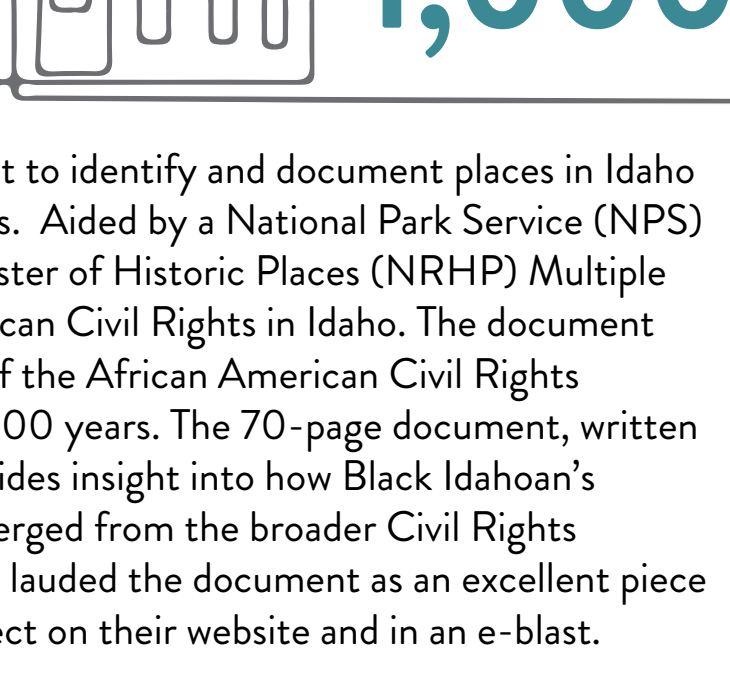
**20,000**



In June 2021, the Behind Gray Walls podcast surpassed **20,000** listens across streaming services.

In early 2021, staff completed three new exhibits in J. Curtis Earl Exhibit. This new interpretation focused on Idaho Veterans, women's use of guns in the West, and women in the military.

The site started two new traditions with the celebration of Dennis the Cat's birthday on Memorial Day weekend, with **over 500** in attendance, and the inaugural 13 Stories Film Competition, a partnership with local filmmakers and i48.



### STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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**MORE THAN 1,000**

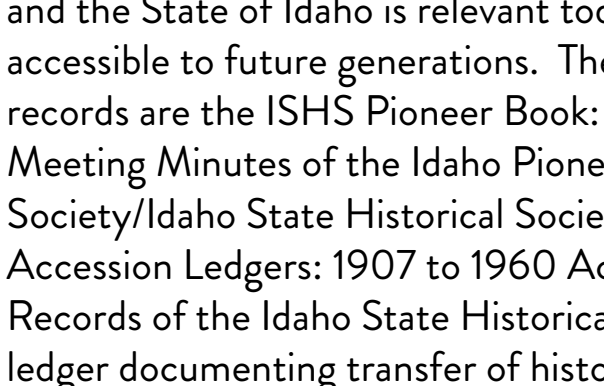
In FY21 the Idaho SHPO completed a project to identify and document places in Idaho associated with African American Civil Rights. Aided by a historic Preservation (NPS) grant, the SHPO completed a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Multiple Property cover submission for African American Civil Rights in Idaho. The document provides a thorough and compelling history of the African American Civil Rights movement in the state, spanning more than 100 years. The 70-page document, written by Dr. Jill Gill of Boise State University, provides insight into how Black Idahoan's struggle for civil rights both mirrored and diverged from the broader Civil Rights Movement nationwide. The NPS has publicly lauded the document as an excellent piece of scholarship and plans to highlight the project on their website and in an e-blast.

The project also included the individual NRHP listing of the Bethel Baptist Church in Pocatello. As the oldest extant Black church in Pocatello, it has been an important gathering space for the community, not only for the religious fellowship of members, but also, historically, for civil rights activities.

There are currently **more than 1,000 Idaho properties listed on the NRHP**.

### IDAHO STATE ARCHIVES

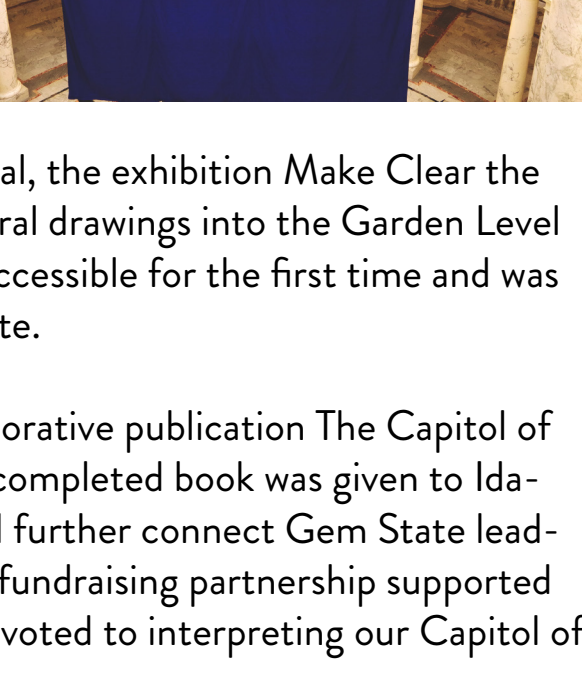
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The Arthur Hart Commemorative Project was a collaborative project that fused today's innovative technologies with historic records. The project celebrated our agency's 140th anniversary and honored the legacy of Arthur Hart's contributions to preserve and promote Idaho history.

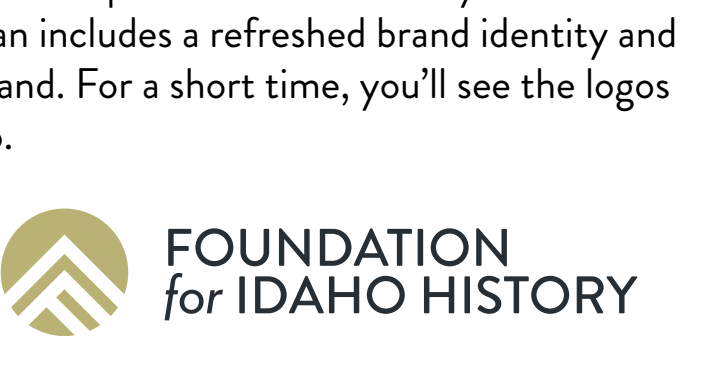
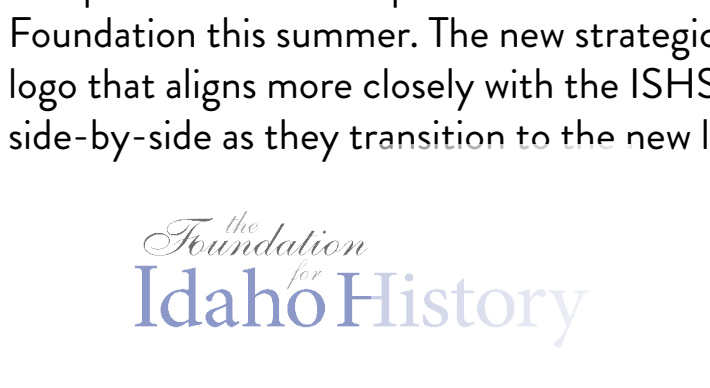
Three of our agency's historic records were digitized, transcribed and preserved to honor Arthur Hart by ensuring the history of our agency and the State of Idaho is relevant today and made accessible to future generations. The historic records are the ISHS Pioneer Book: 1881 to 1960 Meeting Minutes of the Idaho Pioneer Society/Idaho State Historical Society and two Accession Ledgers: 1907 to 1960 Accession Records of the Idaho State Historical Society – a ledger documenting transfer of historic documents and artifacts. Each historic record will be physically preserved in an optimal archival environment, transcribed to enhance researcher experience and digitized to easily reach all patrons of the Idaho State Historical Society.

This work could not have been completed without the generous donation from Andy and Shannon Erstad to the Idaho State Historical Society to preserve Idaho history and commemorate Arthur Hart's many contributions to the Idaho State Historical Society and the State of Idaho.



### CAPITOL CURATION PROGRAM

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In celebration of the Statehouse's dedication centennial, the exhibition Make Clear the Path of Duty brought the Capitol's original architectural drawings into the Garden Level wings. This collection of materials was made publicly accessible for the first time and was the program's most ambitious temporary exhibit to date.

The Capitol Curator led development of the commemorative publication The Capitol of Idaho at Boise: 100 Years of the People's House. The completed book was given to Idaho's elected and appointed officials as a gift that would further connect Gem State leaders with the halls of government. A public and private fundraising partnership supported the project, and it has inspired a second publication devoted to interpreting our Capitol of Light.

Additionally, the program created much needed guiding documents that have since been incorporated into the Capitol Building Usage Manual. These will ensure more consistent stewardship of the statehouse and its collections while providing building occupants with a clearer line of communication with the Idaho State Historical Society.

### FOUNDATION FOR IDAHO HISTORY

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The Foundation for Idaho History, a 501(c)3 charitable organization, has partnered with the ISHS for twenty years to raise financial support and awareness for ISHS' educational programs, exhibits, and projects by engaging private donors. Thanks to a grant from the Murdock Charitable Trust, the Foundation worked closely with the DeVos Institute of Arts Management to re-imagine their strategic plan and align it with the ISHS strategic plan and robust scope of work. The resulting changes strengthen the breadth and depth of the Foundation's fundraising support of ISHS.

This process was the impetus for the new membership benefits launched by ISHS and the Foundation this summer. The new strategic plan includes a refreshed brand identity and logo that aligns more closely with the ISHS brand. For a short time, you'll see the logos side-by-side as they transition to the new logo.

