

Witness Stones Project
Director's Report
27 MAR 2023

Ongoing Planning and Active Leads:

Organizations:

Central Connecticut State University:

Partnership growing with new full time African American History faculty posting including relationship/release time to work with Witness Stones Project. They have also brought CLHO and CT Explored under their roof with the opportunity to bring CT Council for Social Studies too. They are looking to fund a CT History Center there with WSP as part of the organization. We are being brought into CCSU Community Engagement initiative and hope for funding through that relationship

CT Landmarks:

Working with three sites - Suffield, New London, and Bethlehem to bring the WSP to their premier historical sites. We will be telling important stories at two of their sites.

Slave Dwelling Project:

Aiming to pilot collaboration at the Hempsted Houses in New London for this upcoming Juneteenth. I haven't received a response to recent communications.

New Jersey:

Continuing to work with Stoutsburg Sourlands African American Museum with continuation of work with Hopewell Valley School District. Newly accepted project with Abraham Staats House in South Bound Brook, NJ and public school there. Met with African American historical organization and Superintendent of Public Schools, Princeton, NJ.

New York:

Finishing first project in Rye and second project accepted in Scarsdale with the Junior League of Central Westchester and local school

Churches:

Working with recipients of Episcopal Diocese in Connecticut in Essex, Wilton, New London and Madison. We already completed a project with Trinity Episcopal Churches in Wallingford and New Haven. (Liz)

Multiple Projects Per Community:

Priority and Alliance Schools:

In our goal to increase our reach to more majority-minority schools, we are excited to have new projects with Hamden Middle School (400 students), Manchester High School (100 students), and in New London with a public high school teacher (80 students). We are also in discussions with the Connecticut Council for Social Studies to bring the project to a New Haven High School.

All Schools:

		This year's New Projects			Installations
1	1st	Old Saybrook*			Spring 2023
2	1st	Stonington Middle School			Spring 2023
3	1st	Ridgefield Middle Schools (2)			Fall 2023
4	1st	Essex/John Winthrop M.S.			Spring 2023
5	1st	Choate, Wallingford			Spring 2023
6	1st	St. Paul's Wallingford			Fall 2022
7	1st	St. Matthew's Wilton			Spring 2023
8	1st	Holy Child Rye, NY			Spring 2023
9	1st	Compass School, Kingston			Spring 2023
10	1st	Branford High School			Fall 2023
11	1st	Manchester High School			Spring 2023
12	1st	Bethlehem			Spring 2023
13	1st	New London			Spring 2023
14	1st	Hamden			Spring 2023
15	1st	St. Andrew's Madison			Spring 2023

Ongoing Projects						
1	2nd	Durham/RSD-13		Winter	Liz	Spring 2023
2	2nd	Mansfield Public Schools		Winter	Dennis	
4	2nd	Wooster School, Danbury		Winter	Liz	
5	2nd	Woodstock Middle School		Winter	Dennis	
6	3rd	Killingly H.S.		Winter	Dennis	
7	5th	Guilford/Adams M.S. (3)		Winter	Dennis	
8	4th	Country School, Madison		Winter	Liz	
9	3rd	New Haven - Foote		Winter	Dennis/Joy	
10	2nd	Hopewell Valley, NJ		Winter	Elaine/Beverly	New Jersey
11	5th	West Hartford Public Schools		Winter	Liz/Tracey/Denise	
12	4th	Greenwich Hist Soc & Sacred Heart Greenwich and Greenwich Academy		Winter	Heather	

Additional New Projects for next year:

- Scarsdale, NY
- South Bound Brook, NJ
- Branford, CT
- East Windsor, CT
- New London, CT with St. James and the Williams School

With many ongoing inquiries.

Digital:

Continuing our work with Northeast Slavery Records Index using grant to fund a graduate assistant at CCSU. We received additional grant money for the second semester where we will be focusing on uploading manumissions.

Working with CT Humanities on CT Slavery Data Consortium Start Up. Possible funding in future.

Fee-For-Service Changes:

In order to afford our ongoing work, our expected new work, and our new employee, we will need to increase our fees for those schools and organizations that can afford it moving forward or until such time we find other ongoing sources of funding.

We are receiving pushback from schools about the new fee increase. We may stabilize last year's increase at \$6,000-\$7,000 in-state until the pushback decreases.

Civic Engagement:

Pat and Dennis have been invited to speak at colleges, universities, high schools, and civic organizations across Connecticut and the region. Still getting the word out about our project.